FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 MARCH 1987

### Israel

*Pollard Affair* — A 1982 decision by the CIA to begin a covert operation to penetrate Israeli intelligence apparently led to the Israeli decision to "run" Jonathan Pollard in Washington, *The Jerusalem Post* reported citing U.S. Senator David Durenberger. Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, however, denied that a U.S. spy was discovered in the IDF intelligence branch as Durenberger alleged, Jerusalem radio noted.

In a bid to preserve the secrecy of testimonies to the Pollard fact-finding committee, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is searching for a legal way to prevent material gathered by the committee from being given to the United States, Jerusalem television reported. According to Jerusalem radio, several clients have been legally advised not to testify before the committee, casting doubt on its future. Committee Chairman Yehoshu'a Rotenstreich told the television he would keep his word that "even if one of the people summoned fails to appear before the committee, it would cease operating at once."

*Talks with USSR Envoy* — "Another" meeting took place in Washington between a "high-ranking" Soviet diplomat and an Israeli diplomat concerning the resumption of diplomatic relations, Jerusalem radio revealed. The Soviet official indicated that if Israel agrees to a preparatory conference leading to an international conference on the Middle East, it would elicit a "turnabout in the Kremlin's stance and contribute to the restoration of relations."

### Palestinian Talks

The Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF) criticized the decision to hold a PNC meeting, insisting it will "exacerbate differences within the PLO," Radio Monte Carlo reported citing a PNSF spokesman. PNSF leader Khalid al-Fahum is now holding talks in Tripoli with representatives from six Palestinian groups on drawing up a draft agreement to restore unity and the PLO nationalist policy, the spokesman said.

In Libya, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi met with the Palestinian representatives, including the PFLP's George Habash and the DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah, JANA reported.

### Afghanistan

Foreign Minister Abdol Wakil contended that the Geneva proximity talks could have ended by now if Pakistan had been flexible, Moscow *Pravda* reported 19 March. Asserting that U.S. anti-Afghan policy remains the chief obstacle to success, Wakil said Pakistani support for DRA counterrevolutionaries and its obstruction of refugees' return to the DRA "did not contribute to a favorable atmosphere in Geneva." Wakil noted that "positions came somewhat closer together" adding, however, that this was "entirely because of the Afghan side's approach to to the problem."

### Lebanon

The Iranian Embassy in Beirut "is not concerned" about a recent report in a Soviet paper claiming that Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite is being held in the embassy, Voice of Lebanon Radio reported. The embassy also issued a statement on 19 March calling for the release of four Iranian hostages and welcoming the Anglican Church's willingness to mediate for their return, the Voice of National Resistance noted.

*Security Situation* — Israeli aircraft conducted mock raids over Sidon on 19 March, Beirut radio reported, adding that the planes were confronted by ground defenses.

A car bomb exploded in East Beirut when the driver started the engine, killing three people and injuring another three, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

### Libya

The Libyan charge in Kuwait denied press reports that Tripoli has asked a third party to mediate in the dispute with Cairo over a Libyan aircraft that landed at an Egyptian airport, KUNA reported.

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### PNSF Opposes Salah Khalaf's Call for PNC Session

*JN191648 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] In Damascus the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] has criticized the decision to convene the PNC. PNSF Spokesman Khalid 'Abd al-Majid has said convening the PNC prior to achieving a comprehensive political and organizational agreement will exacerbate differences within the PLO.

The PNSF spokesman said PNSF leader Khalid al-Fahum is now holding talks in Tripoli [Libya] with representatives of six Palestinian organizations on a draft agreement restoring Palestinian unity and bringing back the PLO nationalist policy that opposes reactionary plans.

Abu Iyad, alias Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member, announced in Paris yesterday that five Palestinian organizations, including Fatah and the DFLP, agreed in Tunis to convene the PNC in Algiers on 20 April.

### Palestinian Leaders Meet With Al-Qadhdhafi

*LD192003 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1908 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Mar (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution received leaders of the Palestinian revolution factions this evening. Present at the meeting were Brothers Khalid al-Fahum, PNC chairman; Dr George Habash and 'Abd al-Rahim Malluh from the PFLP; Ahmad Jibral and Talal Naji from the PFLP-GC; Nayif Hawatimah and Salim Dardunah from the DFLP; Dr Samir Ghawshah and Tariq 'Abd al-'Aziz from the Popular Struggle [Nidal] Front; Tal'at Ya'qub and Tariq Salim al-Namir from the Palestine Liberation Front; and 'Atif Abu Bakr and Amal Fahm from Fatah, the Revolutionary Council.

The meeting comes within the context of the pan-Arab initiative to step up the armed struggle movement of the Palestinian revolution. This initiative was announced by the brother leader in his important speech before the General People's Congress in its 12th ordinary session at the town of the first spark, Sabha, on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of people's authority and the birth of the first Jamahiriyah in history.

### Muhammad 'Abbas Announces New Military Operations

*AU182052 Paris AFP in English 2040 GMT 18 Mar 87*

[Excerpt] Rome, March 18 (AFP) — Palestinian leader Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], considered by Italian authorities to be responsible for the *Achille Lauro* hijacking 18 months ago, has announced a new campaign of "military operations," the magazine *Europeo* says in its Friday editions.

"I say to all, that in the coming months, we will take part in several important military operations," he told the magazine.

"After the *Achille Lauro*, we drew up plans for new operations.... We consider the *Lauro* affair as simply an operation which did not succeed."

In the interview, Abu al-'Abbas warned that "war operations" would continue "so long as we do not have our native land, and until our last breath." He did not say where the attacks would take place, or what would be the targets.

Abu al-'Abbas, who has been sentenced to life imprisonment by Italy over the liner hijacking, in which a crippled Jewish American, Leon Klinghoffer, was killed, also said he takes precautions when he travels, but otherwise does not live in hiding.

He said the seizing of the cruise-ship had been meant as a means of transport only.

The guerrillas planned to disembark at Ashdod "to engage in combat" there, the objective being an Israeli navy base, he said.

The guerrillas successfully demanded a plane to fly them from Egypt to Tunis, but the aircraft was intercepted in mid-flight by U.S. warplanes and forced to land in Italy. [passage omitted]

## BAHRAIN

### Amir Receives British Foreign Office Official
*JN191002 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Manama, 19 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, this morning received David Miles, assistant under secretary at the British Foreign Office, who is currently visiting Bahrain.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah and the British ambassador to Bahrain, Francis Trew.

The British official arrived in Manama on Tuesday night on a 2-day visit to Bahrain as part of a tour of a number of the region's states.

During his visit, the British official will hold talks with Bahraini officials on bilateral issues, current developments in the region, international issues, and issues of common concern to Britain and Bahrain.

## KUWAIT

### Paper Warns U.S. Against 'Erroneous' Policy
*LD200946 Kuwait KUNA in English 0915 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Kuwait, March 20 (KUNA) — A Kuwaiti daily Friday warned the U.S. against its erroneous policy on peace in the Middle East and said that by continuing to ignore the Palestinians' legitimate rights, Washington was inviting the Soviets into the area.

*Al-Ra'y Al-'Aam* newspaper today criticised America's blind support of Israel and stressed that the Arabs would not remain tie-handed any longer in the face of U.S. and Israeli injustices.

In an editorial comment on statements made in Cairo yesterday by U.S. former President Jimmy Carter supporting a Palestinian state, the paper questioned the inconsistency of American officials while in office and outside, starting by Nixon, Ford and ending by Carter.

It noted that during the latter's term in the White House that the U.S. has formulated conditions for recognizing the PLO and allowing Soviet participation in a Mideast international peace conference.

'U.S. insistence on ignoring Palestinian rights and ingenuity regarding Mideast peace,' *Al-Ra'y* cautioned, 'offer the Soviets a historic chance to leap on the Middle East, since they are the best qualified to make use of erroneous American policies and to manipulate such conflicting stands,' it indicated.

The paper said either Washington adopts an even-handed Mideast policy or else reckons with a potential Arab storm and an expansion of Soviet influence in the area.

### Information Minister Meets Hungarian Official
*JN191533 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 18 Mar 87 p 4*

[Text] Information Minister Shaykh Nasir Muhammad Ahmad al-Sabah yesterday received Sandor Burjan, director general of the *Hungarian News Agency* [MTI]. Burjan conveyed to the information minister a verbal message from Rezso Banyasz, chairman of the Hungarian Government Information Office, on relations between Kuwait and Hungary in the information field.

In his message, Banyasz renewed the Hungarian Government's invitation to Shaykh Nasir to visit Budapest. The information minister accepted the invitation and the date of the visit will be fixed later.

Jozef Kaplar, Hungarian ambassador to Kuwait, Ahmad al-Dashti, KUNA's deputy director general, and members of the delegation accompanying the MTI director general attended the meeting.

## OMAN

### French Foreign Minister To Visit Muscat 21 March
*JN191504 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The Foreign Ministry announced today that French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond will head a French official delegation on a 3-day visit to the Sultanate in response to an invitation by His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs.

During his visit, the visiting minister will hold an official round of talks with the Omani side headed by His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, during which they will discuss their friendly bilateral relations, ways to enhance and develop them in various areas, and issues of common interest in the Arab and international arenas.

The French foreign minister and the delegation accompanying him will arrive in the country on 21 March.

## SAUDI ARABIA

### Crown Prince Expects 'Good News' on Gulf War
*LD191838 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 19 Mar (KUNA) — The Saudi crown prince, first deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, emphasized the importance of Arab solidarity, which he considers the natural response to the enemies of the Arab nation and a guarantee for its national and pan-Arab interests. He said his government will never give up its duty to remove marginal differences existing between Arab countries.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti *Al-Majalis* magazine to be published in its edition of next Saturday, Prince 'Abdallah stated that the near future will bring good news with regard to the

Iraq-Iran war and the endeavors of an Arab commission which he heads to mediate between Syria and Iraq. [passage omitted]

In an answer to a question by the chief editor of the magazine on the Iraq-Iran war, Prince 'Abdallah said: "We have continuously appealed to the brothers in Iraq and Iran to end the bloodshed which is being cheaply squandered in a meaningless war between two Muslim, neighboring states."

He added that the attitude of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the rest of the GCC states is clear and unambiguous. This attitude has been constantly affirmed by the statements issued after the Gulf meetings of all levels.

He indicated that recent developments point to a practical change in attitudes, in light of the efforts being exerted. He stressed that an important development, related to the success of these efforts, will take place during the next 2 or 3 months. [passage omitted]

With regard to the solutions proposed to solve the Afghan issue, Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said his government has objected to foreign intervention in Afghanistan from the beginning. The Saudi Government supports and assists its Muslim people in their struggle for the withdrawal of foreign forces from their country.

Regarding rumors of secret contacts between America and the Soviet Union aimed at reappointing the former king of Afghanistan to head a neutral government, Prince 'Abdallah said he has no information about these contacts. He stressed his country has nothing to do with the secret contacts whether they have taken place or not.

He ended his statement to the magazine by saying that "we strongly support the withdrawal of foreign forces from this Muslim country. We also support what the people themselves want: to exercise their full freedom by choice and without being subjected to any foreign military pressures."

### Libyan Envoy Al-Mughayribi Welcomed in Jeddah

*LD192130 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2006 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Jeddah, 19 Mar (SPA) — The personal emissary of Libyan president [title as received], Muhammad Bashir al-Mughayribi, arrived in Jeddah this evening from Madinah. He was received at King 'Abd al-'Aziz Airport, in Jeddah, by a number of officials.

The Libyan emissary had left Madinah earlier this evening after a visit during which he visited and prayed at the Holy Mosque.

### Bahrain's Defense Forces Commander Departs

*LD191023 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0912 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Riyadh, 19 Mar (SPA) — Bahrain's heir apparent and commander of the defense forces, His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, left Riyadh at 1100 hours for home. He was seen off at King Khalid International Airport by His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Riyadh region; Bahrain's ambassador to the Kingdom 'Isa al-Jami'; and a number of officials.

The Bahraini heir apparent attended the opening of the third heritage and culture festival yesterday.

### French Government To Train Special Police Unit

*LD182119 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 18 Mar 87*

[Excerpts] A spectacular cooperation agreement has been signed between Paris and Riyadh at the end of the visit Interior Minister Charles Pasqua has just made to Saudi Arabia. The experts of the RAID [expansion unknown: special police unit] will train a special unit in their own image in Arabia. [passage omitted]

The Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif has signed an agreement to train a special unit and to train civil servants in the passport service, as well as in the struggle against drug trafficking. The Saudis already use the French system for identity cards which cannot be tamperd with and Saudi bomb disposal experts have improved their techniques in France.

This agreement is important, because nearly 20 Arab countries take into account Saudi systems, if for no other reason than to have conformity in their equipment — weapons in particular.

It is surprising, because the GIGN [National Gendarmerie Intervention Group] seemed better placed than RAID, after its successful intervention in Mecca in 1979 against religious fanatics.

The visit of Charles Pasqua was preceded in October by a 4-day trip to France by Prince Nayif who was also very interested in aircraft and missiles.

The Germans are convinced that France is about to sign a contract with Saudi Arabia concerning the purchase of six diesel-powered submarines equiped with conventional weapons — a large contract worth $4 billion.

## UAE

### Arab Fund Officials Sentenced for Embezzlement

*JN191230 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 17 Mar 87 p 1*

[Text] In an open sitting yesterday, the Abu Dhabi criminal court, presided over by adviser Hisham al-Sarraj, sentenced Dr Jawad Hashim, former Arab Monetary Fund president, and Jalal Awhan Istifan, former director of the Fund's Finance Department, to 79 years imprisonment, and ordered them to return $80.5 million and to pay a 1.9 million dirham fine each. If they fail to pay, they will serve an additional 18 years and 8 months in prison.

Mahdi Salih Bahr al-'Ulum, former director of the Fund's Investment Department, was sentenced to 75 years and 6 months imprisonment, and ordered — along with the other two accused

officials — to return $79.2 million and pay a 1.8 million dirham fine. If he fails to pay, he will serve an additional 17 years and 5 months in prison.

Samir Fadil 'Awn, former director of the Fund's Finance Department, was sentenced to 30 years and 6 months imprisonment and ordered, as with the other accused officials, to return $34.8 million, and to pay a 270,000 dirham fine. If he fails to pay, he will serve an additional 2 years and 7 months in prison.

The court sentenced Samir 'Abd al-Latif Rajab, acting director of the Fund's Finance Department, to 2 years imprisonment and ordered him to pay a 70,000 dirham fine. The court decided to take the duration of his detention into consideration, which lasted more than 2 years. It revoked the fine and ordered his immediate release.

The court acquitted Tawfiq Ibrahim Ayyub, the regional manager of the Talal Abu Ghazalah Company, of all charges.

The prosecution had filed 159 charges against Jawad Hashim and five of his aides of embezzling nearly $100 million, breach of faith, and forgery of official accounts and documents.

## PDRY

### Nu'man Returns From Talks With Chinese Leaders

*EA191817 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, Political Bureau member and Council of Ministers chairman, and the delegation accompanying him, returned to Aden at noon today following a 1-week official and friendly visit to the PRC.

During the visit, he held official discussions with his counterpart, State Council Chairman Zhao Ziyang, and a number Chinese Government officials. During the visit, he also met Comrade Li Xiannian, president of the Republic, and a number of protocols were signed in the economic and technical fields.

### Trade, Cultural Protocols Signed

*EA201148 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Excerpt] Democratic Yemen's delegation, led by Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, Political Bureau member and Council of Ministers chairman, returned to Aden this afternoon at the end of an official visit to the People's Republic of China that lasted several days, during which he held discussions with the Chinese State Council Chairman Zhao Ziyang. He also met Chinese President Li Xiannian, and a number of Chinese Government officials. During this visit, a number of trade, economic, technical and cultural protocols were signed.

The results of this visit reflect a positive picture of the developing relations between People's Democratic Yemen and the PRC.

Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man made a statement on his arrival at Aden International Airport in which he said the visit he and the high-level delegation paid to the friendly PRC fulfilled an official invitation from the Chinese leadership. He noted that he and his delegation held successful official discussions with Comrade Zhao Ziyang, State Council chairman, after which a number of agreements and protocols were signed within the framework of economic, trade, cultural and technical cooperation.

He pointed out in this connection that this visit, which lasted several days, aimed at strengthening PDRY-PRC cooperation. He also pointed out that this visit afforded the opportunity of meeting Comrade Li Xiannian, State Council president.

He explained that a review and an exchange of viewpoints took place during the visit on the developments of the situation in the east region and in the international arena. Issues of common interest were also discussed on the basis of the PDRY's and PRC's support for the struggle that aims at deepening the bonds of understanding and cooperation among the states and peoples of the world. Their eagerness to back efforts to consolidate security and stability, and to safeguard world peace was affirmed. [passage omitted]

## YAR

### Prime Minister Receives Saudi Ambassador

*LD192304 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2140 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Sanaa, 19 Mar, (SPA) — This evening YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani received the Saudi ambassador in Sanaa, 'Ali Muhammad al-Qufaydi, who handed him a message from the crown prince, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, to his excellency the Yemeni president, Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

## Newspapers Examine Muslim-Christian Tensions

### AL-AHRAM Views 'Fanaticism'

*JN191315 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 17 Mar 87 p 7*

[Fahmi Huwaydi's article: "Radiations of Fanaticism"]

[Excerpts] Speaking in the language of the hour we may not be exaggerating if we say that some poisonous ideas carrying radiations of fanaticism and hatred have been introduced into Egyptian minds during the past few years. These ideas played a major role in creating sensitivities and planting the seeds of tension between Muslims and Christians.

From this angle it is insufficient to deal with the subject by attributing it to the mistakes or follies of some youths. It also is insufficient to point accusing fingers at the attempts to utilize vulnerability, fragmentation, and fishing in murky waters. More important than this, is the atmosphere that helped the youths commit their foolish acts and that provided a favorable opportunity for disruption and fragmentation. It is this atmosphere rife with the germs of fanaticism, antipathy, and estrangement that underlies the resort to foolishness and vulnerability.

Although it is important to open our eyes wide and be alert to the attempts to fish in murky waters, it would perhaps be better to do our best to point out the one who was primarily responsible for disturbing the water.

One is surprised at what he hears and reads about the sensitivity and estrangement that began to envelop the feelings of many Muslims and Christians, something that has nothing at all to do with the teachings of mercy and kindness called for by their religions or with the traditions of amity and love to which we have become accustomed and under which we have lived for a long time.

Our sons ask: Are we allowed to eat the food of non-Muslims? Are they really atheists? Will they go to hell? Is it true that Prophet Muhammad was a Christian and then disavowed his religion? These are some of the questions we began to hear in our homes reflecting what is being said by elementary and secondary school students, or rather reflecting ideas raised by adults and reiterated by the young in one way or another. In their entirety these ideas bring apprehensiveness and distrust.

This same sensitivity has been a topic of discussion in intellectual circles. An example of this is what Dr Milad Hanna says in his book *Copts, But Egyptians*. In this book Dr Hannad, who was secretary of the Engineers Union in the seventies, says there was a controversy at the Engineers Union over Muslim and Christian engineers' participation in a plan whereby the Union would purchase a piece of land to be used as a cemetery for its members. The controversy ended by the two sides' rejection of the idea because each side preferred to meet God in an independent burial place although they live in closely built houses, although they work in the same factories and offices, and although Islam allows the Muslim man to marry a Christian woman and live with her under one roof. All this spaciousness in living practices and teachings narrowed as a result of the contamination that might result from the nearness of graves and mortal remains. [passage omitted]

It is our right and duty to ask: Why was the concept of mercy and kindness distorted and outweighed by that of estrangement and antipathy? Perhaps the direct answer that may do youth some justice is that there is a dominant and widespread concept pouring into the channel of estrangement rather than unity. This is relatively true to a large extent because what is published for the people in our time on the pages of most Islamic publications reiterates many of the utterances and opinions rejected by the justice and spirit of Islam and by its call for kindness to non-Muslims. We record this and do not pause at it because what is more important than these scattered writings of limited distribution are those books and teachings that are being overtly or covertly circulated by the people. Most important among these books, as far as we know, is Sayyid Qutub's *Al-Zilal [Shadows]*, which is circulated widely among Muslims. In this book we notice that he adopts a harsh and hostile attitude in his interpretation of verses relating to non-Muslims. [passage omitted]

Sayyid Qutub's attitude is harsh not only toward non-Muslims, but also toward Muslims whose society he described as pagan. But what is more important is that these ideas have laid the foundation of a school that has a good market at present. Some followed his line while others went farther than he. The Egyptian "Al-Jihad" group stands in the same square. In a study circulated secretly this group sharply criticized democracy for several reasons. One of these reasons is that democracy calls for equality among citizens. Commenting on this, the study says "Islam rejects this; it rejects equating a Muslim with an atheist." It bases this on the Koranic verse "Shall we then treat the people of faith like the people of sin?"

To state a fact, the abovementioned verse talks about the day of judgment and not earthly life. Moreover, according to the Koran, Muslims are those who believe in one God and not the followers of a certain religion, as stated by Shaykh Muhammad Darraz in his important book on religion. [passage omitted]

The real problem may not lie in fanaticism itself, but in the circumstances that lead to this fanaticism or extremism. Sayyid Qutub's case may serve as an example of the idea we want to present. The reader of his early Islamic books such as *Social Justice in Islam*, issued in the early fifties, finds more tolerance, kindness, and wisdom. As for his books of the sixties, they stem from an opposite attitude marked by narrow-mindedness, rigidity, and harshness. This is obvious in *Al-Zilal*, *Islam and Problems of Civilization*, and *Landmarks Along the Road*.

Qutub underwent extremely difficult circumstances in the sixties. He and the Islamic movement's youth around him went through a bitter experience that produced a different way of thinking, including their repudiation of society. The shift in Qutub's attitude was one of the most salient and grave features of that time. What we are suffering from is some of its results and repercussions. Once we add to this the various social and economic pressures and the large defect inflicted on our values and relations, we may find an interpretation of the state of contamination that afflicted the general atmosphere and provided a favorable opportunity for the growth of fanaticism,

estrangement, and hatred. One of whose victims was the Muslim-Christian relationship.

It is noteworthy in this regard that the spread of some poisonous ideas should prompt us to seriously discuss the need to pave the way for a sound expression of Islamic teachings and ideas. This cannot be done through a preaching program carried by the radio or television or through an information campaign in a particular direction. One of the conditions for the soundness and positivity of this expression remains to open the doors for the legitimacy of nongovernmental Islamic action so that all ideas will be presented to the people publicly and so that these people can distinguish between truth and falsehood and between good and bad.

The door of interpretation remains open to discuss the way to overcome that impasse.

**Need To 'Probe' Issue Seen**

*PM191543 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 16 Mar 87 p 7*

[Article by Jamal Badawi: "The Isolation of Copts"]

[Excerpts] I am still one of those who believe that talking about sectarian sedition is like walking in a minefield. Whether the writer belongs to Islam or Christianity, he still feels the embarrassment caused by the nature of such talk about matters regarding religious faith or national affiliation. In a society like Egypt's, which acquired its fame from the solidity of its national unity and the fusion of its human components into one bloc, talk about sectarian sedition becomes tantamount to concentrating on the exception that is contrary to the rule or focusing on superficial blemishes that distort the appearance but do not affect the essence of the matter. In any case, the popular saying "sedition is dormant; may God curse those who awaken it" applies to this situation.

But an in-depth view of current events, the requirements of scientific research in social phenomena, and both past and present bitter human experiences have taught us it is better to deal with problems than to keep silent about or ignore them. Therefore it is the duty of enlightened and rational people to probe these issues, however critical or sensitive they may be, and to bring these issues out of the confines of narrow argument and whispering into the sphere of light and dialogue before they worsen and explode into incidents with harmful consequences. As for the sensitivity that a writer — be he Muslim or Copt — might feel, it is unjustifiable if he is honest, has clarity of vision, and is sincere in the quest for the sublime objective, that is preserving unity of the Egyptians so they can overcome these transient crises and continue their eternal march with one heart and one hand like a closely knit body.

In my view, a solution to the problem of the sectarian incidents now taking place in the cities of upper Egypt will not be achieved through good wishes, supplications, and the reiteration of courteous phrases; in fact it requires deep penetration into the phenomenon and the determination of its causes, which lie inside people's consciences and which accumulated and fermented over long years without us having enough courage to discuss them. I wrote a book in 1980 on *The Roots, Reasons, and Causes of Sectarian Sedition* in which I provided an analytical and historical view of this phenomenon. My objective was for these ideas to create a dialogue. But, regrettably, the book was confiscated, not by the government but by the Al-Akhbar Distribution Company, which received high administrative instructions to retrieve copies of the book 2 hours after it was released onto the market, and so the book remained a prisoner of darkness until its publisher had to distribute it secretly like drugs.

I am still one of those who believe that dealing with the phenomenon of sectarian sedition requires all the enlightened forces of both Muslims and Copts to be united so that the Egyptian streets are not left to the mercy of fanatic spasms and outbursts and so that that Egyptian society will not become a victim of rumors, heresies, and vanities that spread in the climate of silence and negative attitudes and intensify in the absence of reason and wisdom. Therefore, I was very pleased when I read Mr Munir Fakhri 'Abd al-Nur's letter addressed to Mr Ahmad Baha' al-Din, who published it in last Saturday's issue of *Al-Ahram* under the "Daily Chronicle" rubric. The letter writer is one of the Coptic intellectuals who inherited the liberal national thought learned from the 1919 revolution. His father, Fakhri 'Abd al-Nur, was at the forefront of the Copts attracted by the revolution and therefore joined it and participated, both theoretically and practically, in promoting the national concept of an Egyptian political group with two wings, Islamic and Coptic, when the revolution was resisting British colonialism on one hand and seeking to establish a political system free from absolute rule on the other.

The letter writer draws our attention to one of the numerous and complicated reasons that led and continue to lead to a worsening of the situation; that is, the negative attitude of the Copts and their abstention from participation in public life. The best proof of this is the absence of Coptic names from the lists of candidates nominated for the People's Assembly elections. He wonders: Is it reasonable that on the NDP's lists the number of Copts nominated is no more than 7 and on the Al-Wafd's lists only 14 and that all the candidates, except for 1 or 2, are at the bottom end of the lists? Then Mr Munir excuses the Copts if they suffer a state of panic and paralysis in the face of the mounting force of some extremist currents and therefore prefer to isolate themselves, fearing that the current might sweep them away. The writer goes on to say the Copts felt frustrated on seeing the doors to senior government posts being closed to them and therefore preferred to keep away from these posts. Their interests focused on private businesses and trade. Surveying the field of public service, the writer finds it devoid of Copts (except for three names that he mentioned: Dr Butrus Ghali, Mr Ibrahim Faraj, and Dr Milad Hanna). The writer sees in this a danger that could lead us into a horrific vicious circle. In his estimation, the Copts and their resort to isolation and negativism is their own responsibility. On the contrary, they should enter the fields of public service and participate in all the issues and responsibilities as they were once accustomed to doing in all circumstances.

This is in fact a frank and desirable view coming from one of the Coptic intellectuals because it throws light on one of the aspects of the sectarian crisis; namely, the Copts' abstention from participation in public life. By any criteria this abstention represents a

defect in the Egyptian society's social and political structure. Historical reality, since Islam came to Egypt, shows us that the Copts have never been isolated from public life or refrained from assuming senior posts. [passage omitted]

Because the history of relations between Muslims and Copts has been the way it is and has never been besmirched by the stain of sectarian fanaticism, even during eras renowned for their fanaticism, and because the relationship between the two sides has been spared the ills of persecution and proceeded toward amity and cooperation, what are the circumstances that have forced this decline?

The answer to this question lies in the disaster of the British occupation in 1882. The British went on sowing the seeds of division between Muslims and Copts in an evil manner that began with the elimination of senior Muslim and Coptic employees and their replacement by Christian Syrians. In a second stage, the British concentrated on the gradual elimination of many Coptic employees under the slogan of "the right of the majority" to these jobs so that the problem of minority oppression would erupt, there would be an exchange of heated and nonheated reactions, and the sense of separatism in both Copts and Muslims would grow. [passage omitted]

This evil British policy succeeded in creating a state of tension between Muslims and Copts which was reflected in the pages of newspapers, where the two teams resorted to accusing one another of fanaticism. The papers overflowed with extremist articles and offensive phrases which poured oil on the fire. The severity of sectarian arrogance escalated to a point where the Copts called for a conference to take place in Asyut to discuss their demands. The Muslims countered by holding a conference of their own in Heliopolis. This division produced its first fruit in the form of the Legislative Assembly law which for the first time stipulated the principle of sectarian representation to consecrate the walls of isolation between the two wings of the Egyptian nation.

The national movement remained in a state of latency during World War I until the 1919 revolution erupted, transforming the movement into the liberal national concept that made all Egyptians equal in their national affiliation and thus sparing the practical struggle many setbacks which other countries, like India, suffered while struggling for independence. Here we find the Copts rushing into the national movement in its new form, which was firmly and effectively embodied in the leadership of Sa'd Zaghlul and later, the Al-Wafd Party. The formation of Al-Wafd was a blend of both Muslims and Copts to emphasize the secular nature of Al-Wafd as a political organization and institution.

Al-Wafd's policy, as stated by Tariq al-Bishri, was not aimed at adhering to unity and strengthening it. But Al-Wafd itself, as a political institution, was based on an encompassing Egyptian fabric and its leadership and foundations were based on the principle of "citizenship" alone, regardless of religion. This was the best protection for it, more convincing and more effective in making everyone feel the common affiliation — more so than anything else, be it a program, political plan, talk, maneuver, or a call. [passage omitted]

Tariq al-Bishri observes that Al-Wafd, with this new approach, succeeded in stripping away the Coptic and Islamic character, as a political character, from all members, and therefore there were no Copts and Muslims in Al-Wafd's political action, which explained the strong enthusiasm which both Copts and Muslims showed and the affiliation to their common origin and Egyptian universality. This was in addition to the two sides' trust in one another and their optimism about the common future after independence. Al-Wafd was an institution of independence and a collective institution as well. Al-Wafd represented an independent and democratic Egypt and embodied Egypt's strength for the Egyptians through its actual formation. Thus all wariness disappeared after the national grouping emerged as a tangible fact, and the British claims predicting division and fanaticism and casting doubt on the future of relations between Copts and Muslims collapsed. All this collapsed not under the impact of a future promise, or an imaginary theory, or talk flowing from the press or pulpits, but of a tangible fact; namely, that the party of independence and freedom is a collective Egyptian party which itself is the nucleus of an independent democratic state and is also the constituent of this building with its men, organizations, ideas, relations, and traditions of activities.

So, what happened after the national concept of the Egyptian political group went through all these positive steps? How did the phenomenon of the Copts' abstention from participation in public life reappear on the surface of political life? The answer requires further discussion.

### AL-AKHBAR Cites Mubarak Appeal

*NC200753 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — The *Al-Akhbar* newspaper comments on sectarian strife in its editorial today. The paper stresses that any attempt to sow the seeds of sectarian sedition is undoubtedly an alien action which seeks to harm stability in Egypt. The paper asserts that Egypt has been a living example of national unity for hundreds of years. The sons of Egypt have lived together for a long time, uniting around their love for Egypt and their efforts to protect it from any evil. This will be our only creed for the rest of our lives, the paper adds.

In its editorial, the paper urges citizens to stand up to those who are trying to drive a wedge between the sons of the one homeland. This is the responsibility of every citizen and every Egyptian, the paper says. The paper calls on every Egyptian to heed the appeal made by President Mubarak during his meeting with popular and executive leaders in the Al-Minya Governorate for all citizens to be firm, to rely on logic and conscience, and to reject the advocators of sedition and the propagators of rumors. In conclusion, the paper expresses complete confidence in the Egyptian citizen's ability to understand the evil motives of those who are behind such base attempts.

### Journalists Denounce Sectarian Incidents

*NC191644 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — The Council of the Egyptian Journalists Association has denounced the attempts to under-

mine the national unity, a unity that has been consolidated by virtue of a long history of common struggle. The council members stressed that the national unity represents the shield protecting the people and homeland, and called for the need to put this issue in its correct place and to look at it from all angles within the framework of true nationalism and the spirit of fraternity and forgiveness.

In a statement issued today, the council pointed out that the attempt to fan sectarian strife among the Egyptians is not the first of its kind, but rather part of a well-known scheme to tear apart the entire Arab homeland. The council affirmed that the Egyptian people, through their dedicated leaders, have always managed to abort these attempts and unveil those who stand behind them.

In the statement the council appealed to the Egyptian media to handle all the issues related to national unity with objectivity and without hiding any facts or paying attention to rumors. The council noted that the recent sectarian incidents had been triggered by a series of malignant rumors spread by elements hostile to the Egyptian people who hid behind false mottos and took advantage of the difficult economic and social circumstances.

### Mubarak Receives Kuwaiti, UAE Officials

*NC191043 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak recieved Shaykh Ahmad Hammud al-Jabir al-Sabah, head of the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee, and Shaykh Khalifah 'Abdallah al-Jabir al-Sabah, member of the Olympic Committee, at the Presidency this morning. Dr 'Abd al-Ahmad Jamal al-Din, head of the Higher Council on Youth and Sports, and Major General 'Abd al-Karim Darwish, head of the Egyptian Olympic Committee, were present at the meeting.

The president also received this morning Ambassador Muhammad Jasim Samhan, the new chief of the UAE Interests Section in Cairo.

In another meeting, the president received Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah, former Sudanese prime minister. This meeting was attended by Dr Mamduh Jabr.

### Assistant Foreign Minister Meets USSR Delegation

*NC192155 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] A round of talks was held at the Foreign Ministry today between Ambassador Ahmad Hatatah, assistant foreign minister, and delegation members of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, who are currently on a visit to Egypt.

In a statement following the session, Ambassador Hatatah said the talks had dealt with the developments in the Middle East and the efforts exerted to give impetus to the peace drive. Both parties shared the view that Egyptian-Soviet cooperation in all fields must be promoted. They expressed the hope that the Egyptian-Soviet economic talks currently being held in Moscow would reach positive results, which would help bolster bilateral cooperation.

### Sudanese Trade Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

*NC200509 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — Sudanese Trade Minister Muhammad Yusuf Abu Harirah left Cairo for Khartoum tonight at the conclusion of an official 5-day visit to Egypt. [passage omitted]

### Ghali Denies SDAR Delegation in Country

*NC191424 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Cairo, 19 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has dismissed reports on the presence in Egypt of a delegation representing the SDAR Polisario. In a statement today, Dr Ghali affirmed he has no knowledge of any visit by a delegation representing this republic or of any contacts being made with Egyptian officials.

Dr Ghali reiterated Egypt's tenacious stand of nonrecognition of the SDAR. He also voiced Egypt's support for the implementation of all UN and OAU resolutions calling for a peaceful settlement of this issue.

### Ghali Meets Belgian Foreign Ministry Official

*NC191547 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, met with a Belgian Foreign Ministry under secretary today. During the meeting, the two officials discussed and assessed the EEC foreign ministers' statement on an international peace conference for the Middle East, issued on 23 February. They also discussed ways to prepare for this conference, in light of positive indications notable in the region, particularly Israel's acceptance of the idea.

Minister Ghali praised the positive European stand in support of the peace efforts and urged Belgium, current EEC chairman, to hold contacts with all parties concerned with this issue, including the Palestinians, in a bid to provide the momentum needed for the convocation of this conference, which represents a framework allowing for a comprehensive and just settlement of the issue, taking the Palestinian's legitimate rights into consideration.

Dr Ghali also stressed the need for the EEC to play a positive role in improving the steadily worsening living conditions of the Palestinians in the occupied territories and to ensure their political and economic rights are compatible with international rules, laws, and norms.

## Merchant Shipping Minutes Signed With USSR

*JN191443 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Mar (INA)— Iraq and the USSR signed the minutes of the meetings of the ninth session of the Iraqi-Soviet Committee for Maritime Navigation and Merchant Shipping at the Transportation and Communications Ministry today. 'Abd al-Sattar Faraman, under secretary of the Transportation and Communications Ministry, signed for the Iraqi side and (G. D. Kirasimojok), member of the Soviet Maritime Fleet Ministry Council, signed for the Soviet side. The minutes include the expansion and promotion of cooperation between the two sides in the field of maritime navigation and merchant shipping and the training of Iraqi maritime cadres.

## Government Informs UN of Shelling of Basra

*JN191919 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1715 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] United Nations, 19 Mar (INA) — Iraq has informed the UN Security Council of the Iranian regime's continuous shelling of purely residential areas in Iraq. In a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, 'Ismat Kittani, Iraq's permanent UN representative, drew the UN Security Council's attention to the fact that the Iranian regime shelled the (Chandri) residential area with long-range artillery on 9 March, damaging civilian property. The message also said the city of Basra was exposed to similar shelling on 16 March and that the enemy shelling damaged civilian houses and property.

## RCC Decree No 150 Issued on Workers' Status

*JN191907 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Mar 87*

["Text" of Decree No 150 issued by the RCC on 19 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

RCC Decree No 150 dated 19 March 1987:

Based on Paragraph A of Article 42 of the Constitution, the RCC, during its session on 19 March 1987, decreed the following:

I. All workers of state departments and of the socialist sector are considered employees and are equal in duties and rights.

II. Those covered by this decree shall go under the laws, regulations, and rules of service and instructions that are issued in this regard and that apply to employees of state departments and the socialist sector.

III. 1. The monthly wages of those covered by the regulations of this decree shall be considered a monthly salary within the framework of employees' grade scales when this decree becomes effective.

2. Those covered by the regulations of this decree shall receive the allocations necessitated by the nature of work they do in accordance with effective laws and RCC decrees and instructions.

IV. The titles of those covered by this decree shall be added to the working plans that are attached to the service laws, regulations, and rules applicable to the state departments and the socialist sector in which they work. Appointments to these jobs shall be decided by the competent minister, the head of the establishment that is not connected with a ministry, or whoever is authorized in accordance with a specialized committee without setting certificates as a condition.

V. 1. The retirement laws, regulations, and rules that apply to state departments and the socialist sector shall be applied to those who are covered by the regulations of this decree regarding all issues relating to their retirement.

2. The Finance Ministry and the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry shall take the necessary measures to withdraw the sums of money that belong to the social security subscriptions of those covered by the regulations of this decree from the general establishment of retirement and social security of workers and book them into the Treasury in compensation for their previous service when this decree becomes effective.

VI. Those covered by the regulations of this decree shall go under the law and regulations of the discipline of the state departments and socialist sector employees.

VII. The regulations of Worker Retirement and Social Security Law No 39 for 1971 shall be confined to workers of the private and mixed sectors and workers of the cooperative sector until an alternative is issued.

VIII. The regulations of Labor Law No 151 for 1970 shall be confined to workers of the private and mixed sectors and the workers of the cooperative sector until an alternative law is issued.

IX. 1. The labor courts' competence shall be confined to disputes in the private, mixed, and cooperative sectors.

2. The labor courts shall continue to examine issues and claims submitted to them when this decree became effective until they resolve these issues and claims regarding those covered by this decree.

X. The workers' federation of trade unions shall be confined to the private, mixed, and cooeprative sector.

XI. The Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs shall propose a labor draft law to organize work relations in the private, mixed, and cooperative sectors.

XII. This decree shall be implemented as of the date of its issuance, except the financial issues, which shall be implemented as of 1 April 1987.

[Signed] RCC Chairman Saddam Husayn

## AL-RA'Y on Carter Trip, 'Lost' U.S. Credibility

*JN191035 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Mar 87 pp 1, 20*

[Editorial: "What Is in Carter's Bag?"]

[Text] Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's tour of the region poses numerous questions with regard to timing and aims and about the effects that may result from it.

To begin with, there can be no separation between Carter and the fact that he is one of the Camp David symbols, actually the major architect of Camp David. Hence, it is natural that Carter's moves should be viewed with much caution. What first draws attention about the timing of Carter's moves is that they come at a time when the failure of Camp David has been confirmed and when there has been an unprecedented loss of U.S. credibility in the region.

Therefore, it is worth wondering what Carter has to offer, especially as he has cast doubts on the possibility of holding an international conference this year. He said that making 1987 as the date for the conference was based on extreme optimism. Such doubts are disquieting. Moreover, the terms Carter chose in his statements, such as an international seminar and the Palestinians right to a homeland, suggest that Carter intentionally sought to be vague. This vagueness is not acceptable and does not inspire confidence. The term "international seminar" is a repetition of a Peres idea and is the closest thing to a political saloon. It is also basically different from an international conference which has a clear view to achieve specific objectives. With regard to Palestinian rights, these rights are specifically related to their occupied homeland and nothing prevented Carter from speaking clearly about these rights rather than to disregard the facts in his talk about a homeland for the Palestinians.

On the other hand, it seems that Carter wants to enter history through the gate of the U.S. nationals being held in Lebanon after he has failed to enter history through the Camp David gate. No one can now predict how Carter will try to enter history via the hostages' gate. But what cannot be forgotten is that Carter himself failed to release the U.S. hostages who were held at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran at the end of his term of office.

At any rate, the game of hostage-taking is rejected totally. One paradox that calls for contemplation is that the game of hostage-taking undermined Carter when the Lut Desert operation failed. Likewise, this same game nearly undermined Reagan when he was involved in the arms deals with Tehran. Undoubtedly, the loss of U.S. credibility still is the reason behind repeated U.S. failures in the region. This loss of U.S. credibility has not only affected political action but has also contributed toward introducing violence into the region, violence that harms innocent people and against which Jordan has long cautioned.

Perhaps Washington will understand this caution and proceed on safer ground to regain its lost credibility by refraining from supporting the aggressors and by making serious moves to build a just, comprehensive peace in the region. It must be recalled that in the absence of credibility neither Carter nor Reagan can enhance the U.S. image in the region. Nor can they handle the effects resulting from introducing violence into the region. The policies of Carter and Reagan have been a major cause of violence in the region.

## Information Minister Meets USSR Institute Members

*JN191453 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Amman — Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib received in his office this morning Aleksey Vasiliyev, deputy director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Africa Institute, and Sergey Svechnikov, chief researcher at the institute, who are currently visiting Jordan.

During the meeting, the minister reviewed developments in the Middle East and Jordanian moves to bring about a just, comprehensive, and lasting solution to the region's conflict through an international conference for peace to be attended by all parties to the conflict and the five permanent UN Security Council member states. They also reviewed the growing relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union in various fields.

## Sudanese Economic Delegation Signs Trade Protocol

*JN192116 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Jordan and Sudan today signed a trade protocol under which they will exchange goods worth $50 million shared equally by the two countries. The Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Muhammad al-Saqqaf and his Sudanese counterpart 'Umar Abu Zayd signed the protocol which is valid for a year.

Both sides agreed to hold periodic meetings every 4 months in Khartoum and Amman to update the protocol. They also reached agreement on means of setting the cost of the exchanged goods through two Sudanese and Jordanian banks.

### Delegation Departs

*JN192114 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Amman — A Sudanese economic delegation left Amman this evening following a 4-day visit to Jordan during which it held trade and economic talks with Jordanian officials in the public and private sectors. It also visited a number of Jordanian industrial establishments and firms to become acquainted with the advanced level reached by Jordanian industry and to possibly import commodities to fraternal Sudan.

The guest delegation was seen off by the director of the Public Relations Department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

### Israeli Planes Raid Palestinian Positions

*NC201406 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1402 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] A squadron of Israeli warplanes raided the approaches to Darb al-Sim village and Jabal al-Halib east of Sidon at 1445 today. The 2-minute raid was targeted against Palestinian positions. Fires were seen rising from the scene of the attack. The enemy warplanes were confronted by ground defenses.

### 'Only Material Damage' Reported

*NC201422 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1416 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Israeli aircraft flying at high altitude dropped a number of bombs on Jabal al-Halib in Sirub and Darb al-Sim at approximately 1450 today. Only material damage has been reported.

### Israeli Tanks Fire on Villages in South

*NC201412 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1406 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] We have just received the following report from the south: The villages of Haris and Yatar have been coming under Israeli tank fire since this afternoon.

### Amal Bureau Issues Statement on Current Issues

*NC191830 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Excerpts] Minister Nabih Birri chaired a meeting today that was jointly held by the Amal Movement's Political Bureau and Executive Committee. The conferees conducted a review of the security and political developments and issued a statement at the end of the meeting that says, in part:

The Political Bureau held in-depth discussions on the recent Israeli onslaughts on the southern villages, as well as the destruction and mass murder being perpetrated by the enemy troops and their agents. The bureau praised the steadfastness being demonstrated by the inhabitants vis-a-vis the scorched earth policy pursued by Israel in the south. It paid special tribute to the resistance's heroic operations, which once again affirm that the inhabitants will never succumb to the Israeli-imposed fait accompli in the south. The Amal Movement's Political Bureau voiced its support for the appeal by His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Shams al-Din to the UN Security Council to form a UN fact-finding mission to investigate Israel's crimes against the south.

The Bureau also stressed the need for an immediate solution to the Palestinian expansion outside the camps, particularly east of Sidon, now that the siege on the Al-Rashidiyah camp has been lifted. The movement emphasized its stance not to respond to the Palestinian provocative acts. It called on the Lebanese people, the national Palestinian commands, and all parties that made initiatives to end the infighting, to reconsider their stands in light of the real objective behind the Palestinian expansion. The Bureau also requested that all these sides consider the return of all armed Palestinians to the camps as a starting point toward the achievement of the political solution, and called on them to pressure 'Arafat and his group to end this crime.

Continuing its statement, the Bureau reiterated that the current political plan in West Beirut is not meant to salvage West Beirut alone. On the contrary, it constitutes a starting point toward realizing a comprehensive political plan as part of a national project to restore the country's unity and to end the state of division and disintegration.

The Political Bureau expressed its satisfaction for the stands adopted by His Beatitude Patriarch Sfayr and the Bishops Council, which are bound to pave the way toward the achievement of national accord and the unity of all the Lebanese areas. [passage omitted]

In conclusion, the Bureau called on all the diplomatic missions and the Arab and foreign embassies to resume their normal work in West Beirut.

### East Beirut Explosion Claims Three Deaths

*NC191401 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The detonation of an explosive device inside a Mercedes 230 on the Al-Zalqa-Jall al-Dib freeway near the Chateau Trianon Theater [in East Beirut] has led to the martyrdom of three people and the wounding of three others. The wounded are George Nujaym, Joseph Hilu, and Jacqueline Tawq.

### Group Claims Bombing in W. Beirut, Threatens More

*NC192050 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The Umar ibn al-Kattab group has telephoned Radio Free Lebanon and claimed responsibility for detonating a 5-kg explosive charge near the Bi'r Hasan Vocational Training School in the Sports City [in West Beirut] at 1745 today. The group threatened to continue its operations against the Syrian occupation army in West Beirut until this army leaves the city and Lebanon altogether.

### Lebanese Presidential Delegation Arrives 19 Mar

*JN191629 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic*
*1600 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The Lebanese president's delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon. The delegation includes former Foreign Minister Elie Salim; Colonel Simon Qassis, chief of the intelligence service; and lawyer Nicola Nasr. The ninth round of talks with Syrian officials will begin with a meeting with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today.

Lebanese press comments on the visit were pessimistic in view of the two sides' continued differences on the magnitude of the projected political reforms in Lebanon.

### Lebanese CP Salutes Al-Asad, Syrian Policies

*JN191917 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1515 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad has received a message of greetings, thanks, and gratitude from the Lebanese Communist Party [LCP] for Syria's leading pan-Arab role on the occasion of the LCP's Fifth Congress and the resolutions it made saluting Syria and its national [qawmi] role. The message, signed by LCP Secretary General George Hawi, says:

The congress' resolution on addressing a message of greetings and appreciation to you, Brother President Hafiz al-Asad, becomes more urgent, warm, and sincere following the events and as a result of the courageous decision which you have made, Mr President, to send the Syrian Arab forces to Beirut to put an end to the fighting that was a form of mass suicide by the national, nationalist, democratic, humanitarian, and civilized forces.

Your courageous decision not only saved Beirut from the fighting, sectarian domination, chaos in the security situation, and violations that have occurred in the past 2 years, but also saved national action from being lost in the labyrinths of sectarian courses and undemocratic and unrevolutionary practices. Your decision created an opportunity to save the country from its ordeal so it can complete the task of liberation from Israeli occupation, regain its unity, affirm its Arab identity, and embark on the course of democratic development.

The Fifth LCP National Congress salutes the achievements accomplished by fraternal Syria under your wise and bold leadership, and affirms the communists' full support for the progressive and nationalist course of liberation which you are pursuing in the face of Israeli aggression and imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots against Syria, against the Palestinian people and their cause, against Lebanon and Lebanese national and progressive forces, against all Arab liberation movements, and against all forces of liberation and progress in our region and in the world.

The Fifth LCP National Congress believes the task of defending Syria in the face of a biased campaign of fabrications, in the face of plots hatched by imperialism and Zionism, and in the face of criminal plans for aggression heads its tasks of struggle and is equal to the task of strengthening and developing the Lebanese national resistance so it can achieve its goals of expelling the forces of occupation from our country unconditionally and is equal to the task of safeguarding Lebanon's Arabism and unity and the Lebanese people's right to democratic development.

The Fifth LCP Congress salutes Syria's stand in confronting the policy of capitulation which aims to liquidate the Palestinian cause through the Camp David accords, the Reagan plan, and their various models such as the 17 May agreement in Lebanon, the Amman agreement, the Cairo declaration with regard to the Palestinian question [regulating Palestinian armed presence in Lebanon], and all the policies of the deviationist rightist leadership which is controlling the PLO and eagerly running after the mirage of an illusory solution which has nothing to do with the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights but forfeits the most elementary of such rights and sacrifices the basic interests of our Arab nation in its historic struggle with Zionism and imperialism.

The Fifth LCP Congress salutes Syria's national role in the Lebanese arena. The dispatch of the Syrian Arab forces to Beirut was an advanced model of such a role.

The Fifth LCP Congress salutes Syria's role on the international level, for Syria is an important base for the anti-imperialist struggle which strives to liberate and safeguard world peace and contribute to the social progress of peoples. It particularly salutes Syria's desire to strengthen the ties of friendship and alliance with socialist countries, foremost of which is the Soviet Union.

### Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Voices Support

*JN191632 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1515 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Aleppo — Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Aleksandr Dzasokhov reiterated his country's support for and appreciation of the stands adopted by the Syrian Arab Republic under His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting the schemes of U.S. imperialism and those of its partner, racist Zionism. He emphasized the Soviet Union's support for Syria's struggle to liberate occupied Arab territories.

In a statement following his visit to Aleppo, the Soviet ambassador said the Soviet Union emphasizes its constant support for Syria's struggle and for its militant stands in confronting fateful challenges. He praised the struggle of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad against all imperialist-Zionist plans and schemes in the Arab region and throughout the world.

Dzasokhov also emphasized the depth and strength of the existing friendly relations between Syria and the Soviet Union and noted the two countries are standing in the same militant trench.

### Khaddam Meets Arab University Council Delegation

*JN191343 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic*
*1115 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received a delegation of the Arab Universities Federation Council at 1200

today. Higher Education Minister Dr Kamal Sharaf attended the meeting.

The vice president briefed the Universities Federation Council's delegation on the general political situation in the region, developments in Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and Arab relations in general.

The vice president stressed Syria's commitment to the Arab nation's pan-Arab cause and to the Arab summit resolutions that reject the Camp David course and any separate handling of the Arab nation's pan-Arab cause.

He said Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad will continue to confront the schemes hostile to the Arab nation and that neither hostile pressures nor threats will affect Syria's pan-Arab stand.

**Senator Reports U.S. Spied on Israel**
*TA200552 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Mar 87 pp 1, 2*

[Report by Wolf Blitzer]

[Text] Washington — In 1982, the U.S. "changed the rules of the game" and began a covert operation designed to penetrate Israel's intelligence community, according to the immediate past chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

*The Jerusalem Post* has learned that Republican Senator David Durenberger of Minnesota told a group of American Jewish political activists that it was that decision by the Central Intelligence Agency [CIA] which apparently led to Israel's decision to "run" Jonathan Jay Pollard in Washington.

Durenberger spoke before a group of nearly 100 Jewish activists last Sunday in Palm Beach, Florida. The meeting was sponsored by the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the pro-Israeli lobbying organization on Capitol Hill. It was held at the home of Irwin Levy, a well-known Jewish activist.

According to sources present during the meeting, Durenberger said that during Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, CIA Director William Casey "for the first time" in recent years changed U.S. policy by authorizing a covert operation against Israel.

After discovering that the U.S. was aware of certain Israeli secrets that could only have come from an inside agent, Israel became suspicious that the U.s. had directly penetrated the Israeli defence establishment, Durenberger reportedly said.

Israel, according to Durenberger's account, feared that Casey had recruited a "high-level" Israeli officer in the IDF who had originally made aliya from the U.S. The senator reportedly said that the officer was "bumped" by the IDF, but he did not elaborate.

"This changed the rules of the game," Durenberger said, referring to the CIA'S covert operation against Israel. He was quoted as saying that the CIA operation answers "the major question — why Israel spied against the United States."

Several sources at the meeting in Palm Beach said that Durenberger pointed to the fact that the CIA has deliberately "not been involved" in commenting on the Pollard affair, deferring to the FBI. "That's because it was their [the CIA's], breach of the agreement (with Israel)," he is quoted as having said.

The U.S. is known to take satellite reconnaissance photographs of Israeli military installations and to intercept communications. But an agreement between the U.S. and Israel was supposed to prohibit direct covert operations against each other's intelligence services.

Ironically, Casey, who has resigned from the CIA after undergoing a brain tumour operation in January, was seen as the most pro-Israeli CIA director in history. After U.S.-Israeli relations dramatically improved in 1983, Casey authorized the routine transfer to Israel of all sorts of previously-restricted intelligence information.

Durenberger's press secretary said yesterday that she would try to obtain some comment from the senator about his reported remarks. But she suspected that he would have "no comment."

Durenberger, according to sources present during the meeting, said that the Pollard affair has been a source of very deep concern to him and to other lawmakers in Washington.

He said that the U.S. and Israel have a "unique relationship," but he dismissed the prevailing opinion that the U.S. does not spy against Israel.

It was at that point in his remarks, the sources said, when Durenberger charged that Casey had actually recruited an Israeli spy.

Durenberger, who was not speaking from a prepared text, said that Israel initially became suspicious when an article appeared in the American press detailing some aspect of Israel's invasion of Lebanon. The article quoted U.S. intelligence sources. It was only from an inside Israeli source that the U.S. could have obtained that information, the senator said.

He told the audience that it was important that this information eventually be released in order to put the Pollard affair into proper perspective. "Israel and the United States should open up and get this information out," one source quoted Durenberger as having said.

Durenberger went on to accuse Casey of not informing the chairmen of the Senate and House Intelligence Committees of the covert U.S. effort to spy on Israel — as required under U.S. law.

**Peres Denies Report**
*TA201221 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has denied the report that a U.S. spy was uncovered in the IDF Intelligence Branch during the Lebanon war. This was his reaction to statements attributed this morning to Senator David Durenberger, former chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, alleging that during the war in Lebanon a senior IDF officer was found to be a U.S. spy and that this exposure led Israel to run Pollard.

Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said that in its session on Sunday, the Cabinet will not discuss the demand raised by Ministers Navon and Ya'aqobi that a legal commission of inquiry [on the Pollard affair] be set up. Speaking to our correspondent Meron Tzur, Mr Peres denied having had prior knowledge of Knesset Member David Liba'i's instruction to the three witnesses that they refrain from testifying before the fact-finding committee.

## U.S. Spy Reportedly Detained, Released in 1982

*TA200826 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Mar 87 p 1*

[Report from New York by Ran Dagoni]

[Text] "Four years ago the military authorites in Israel detained an American spy who was operating in Judaea and Samaria, but after 48 hours they handed him over to U.S. representatives in Israel. The spy was flown to the United States, and Israel did not take any legal steps against him." This was reported yesterday by the [Hebrew-language paper] *Yisra'el Shelanu*, which appears in New York.

According to the paper, the reference is to a U.S. citizen of Arab origin who was engaged in intelligence activites in Judaea and Samaria, a region which serves as ground for extensive U.S. intelligence activity.

## Secrecy Sought for Pollard Committee Testimony

*TA192005 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Yehoshu'a Rotenstreich, the chairman of the fact-finding committee on the Pollard affair, told us this evening that if even one of the people summoned fails to appear before the committee it would cease operating at once.

Dr Rotenstreich made these remarks to our political correspondent, adding that it is up to the government to decide to whom it will hand over the testimony. Our correspondent points out that the prime minister is trying to find a formula which will prevent the transfer of the material to the United States. As may be recalled, it was learned last night that Attorney David Liba'i had advised three of his clients who are involved in the Pollard affair not to testify before the Rotenstreich committee. Our political correspondent Yig'al Goren reports from the studio:

Knesset Member [MK] Liba'i's letter to the prime minister in which he informed him that he had advised his clients not to testify before the fact-finding committee looking into the Pollard case threatens the existence of the committee. Dr Yehoshu'a Rotenstreich, the chairman of the committee, told us this evening: My promise to the public remains in effect. If we are not able to hear all the witnesses and if we consequently fail to faithfully do our job, we will cease our activities and quit.

Dr Rotenstreich added that he was also speaking on behalf of Tzvi Tzur, the other member of the committee. Dr Rotenstreich said that the committee plans to hand over the testimony only to the government that appointed it and that it is none of the fact-finding committee's business who the government hands it over to. From contacts held with him today, he infers that attempts are underway to prevent the handing over of the material to outside elements. However, Rotenstreich said that they are meanwhile busy reading a great deal of material and testimonies will begin to be heard within just a few days. If a solution is not found by then, and if even one of the witnesses fails to appear before the fact-finding committee, we will immediately stop our work.

Meanwhile, the prime minister is looking for a legal way to prevent the material accumulated by the fact-finding committee from being handed over to the United States. To this end, the prime minister summoned the attorney general and asked him to find a solution so as to preserve the secrecy of the testimonies that will be heard by the fact-finding committee and prevent the witnesses from incriminating themselves. The attorney general has already met MK Liba'i to discuss this issue.

We were told by the Prime Minister's Office this evening that a solution can be found to the question of secrecy, a question which might undermine the very existence of the fact-finding committee. If a solution is not found within a few days, the members of the committee plan to make good on their word and quit.

## Shamir-Peres Unanimity

*TA201139 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Report by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami — live in the studio]

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir and Shim'on Peres are unanimous about the continued activity of the fact-finding committee and have no intention of having second thoughts about the matter. They have no doubt that the fact-finding committee is the best way to examine the Pollard affair. Mr Shamir and Mr Peres also agreed on the formulation of the letter the prime minister will send as a response to Knesset Member [MK] David Liba'i, the counsellor of three of the Israelis involved in the affair.

In his letter, the prime minister rejects Liba'i's contentions that, if the three testify before the Rotenstreich committee, they will face the danger of their testimony being ultimately handed over to the Americans and used against them. The body entrusted with safeguarding state secrets, Mr Shamir writes to MK Liba'i, is the Cabinet, not your clients. The Cabinet's considerations naturally also include guaranteeing the rights of the three people you represent. The text of the response to MK Liba'i was conveyed to Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and to Attorney General Yosef Harish, who approved it.

We have learned that the Shamir-Peres meeting this morning was relaxed and calm, and the pair's agreement on the main topic on the public's agenda was representative of the first meeting between the two in a long time.

Incidentally, the Cabinet's agenda on Sunday still does not include an item proposing that the fact-finding committee's work be terminated and that a state commission of inquiry be established instead. None of the ministers has thus far submitted an appellation or submitted a motion to the agenda on the issue.

## Rabin: Military Cooperation With U.S. Unchanged

*TA191549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told members of the Presidents Conference [of Major American Jewish Organiza-

tions] today there was no change in Israel's defense arrangements with the United States as a consequence of the Pollard affair.

[Begin Rabin recording] All the relations, whatever was agreed on — visits, exercises — are going as they were planned. There is not any interruption in all the activities within the framework of the strategic cooperation between our two countries, because I believe that the people in the United States, and no doubt those who are involved in this part of our cooperation, realize that it serves our mutual interests: in prevention of war in the region, in coping with terrorism; and hopefully a situation that will be tranquil is the best encouragement for additional efforts to advance and to expand the peace process. [end recording]

Rabin spoke at the Israel Aircraft Industries where members of the Presidents Conference saw the Lavi aircraft undergo its 20th test flight. The chairman of the conference, Morris Abram, says that it has no official stand on whether or not the Lavi project should be completed.

## Officers Change Opinion on Sela' Promotion

*TA191400 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 19 Mar 87 p 1*

[Report by military correspondent Avi Bnayahu]

[Text] High-ranking Air Force officers who, at the time, had prodded Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to promote their colleague Colonel Avi'em Sela', have retracted their former stance and have taken care to voice their new opinion on this matter to the appropriate elements.

Our military correspondent has learned that some of the officers in the Air Force leadership are asserting that they had acted in good faith, "having been led by the nose," and that, in retrospect, they believe that the pressure they exerted on Rabin, together with Major General Lapidot, was unnecessary and injurious.

Despite this, Col Avi'em Sela' has refrained from resigning from his post as the commander of the Tel Nof Air Base on the advice of his attorneys, who claim that he should remain in his post pending the conclusion of the examination related to the Pollard affair.

## Peres Addresses Knesset on South African Policy

*TA191310* [Editorial Report]

Jerusalem Domestic Service and Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1016 on 19 March begin relaying Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' address to the Knesset on the 18 March Inner Cabinet session that discussed Israel's policy toward South Africa, thereby replying to four motions to the Knesset's agenda on the matter. Peres' speech is picked up in progress as he is responding to heckling by Knesset Members [MK's] Me'ir Wilner and Charlie Biton of HADASH. The former had charged that Israel has nuclear ties with South Africa. Peres responds that, as a supporter of Stalin, who was himself a racist who never shrank from dispensing with unfavored aides to suit his purposes, Wilner should be grateful that he is in Israel, the only place where he can live safely, because it is a free country. Peres says: "You, the most brown-nosed Stalinist, have the temerity to come and voice unfounded allegations against Israel?" Peres discounts the charge and dismisses Wilner's judgment in believing any press report that is strongly anti-Israeli, claiming that Wilner audaciously attempts to preach morals to Israel while actually slandering it.

Peres goes on to say that "we take issue with the extreme right and with the extreme left, both of which are divorced from the truth," stressing that his moral scruples are just as sound as those of Yosi Sarid of the left and Ge'ula Kohen of the right. Although Peres denies that Israel has supplied aircraft, artillery, or oil to South Africa, saying "what South Africa has and what it lacks is not the fruit of Israeli action," he concedes that "we do want air links with South Africa." Peres answers MK Ge'ula Kohen, who maintains that Israel can maintain an independent policy toward South Africa regardless of what the United States may want, and says: "It is not true that we can be independent." We will not be able to be independent as long as "the Soviet Union supplies the Arabs with weapons and vast quantities of missiles, while we depend on another superpower's help to obtain our own weapons." Peres adds that the U.S. position must be taken into account "because it currently is more attentive to us than anyone else, and there is reciprocity, which I will not conceal." In general, Peres says, "the Americans are not pressuring us. I only wish there were another nation that would show us as much attentiveness and consideration."

Peres, who first denounces anyone who equates Zionism with racism, continues to make it "unequivocally clear" that "Israel is not fighting either the whites or the blacks, but discrimination; our enemy is not people, it is an immoral position called apartheid, which we never accepted." Peres notes that the West by and large opposes apartheid, although to different degrees, and its deliberations on how to put an end to that regime — a moral as well as a practical problem — resulted in a dispute among various Western countries on whether sanctions are the most effective means of achieving this end, especially in view of the fact that the 1977 UN resolution on sanctions remained no more than "a resolution on paper, because the sanctions merely served to fortify racism in South Africa." In Peres' opinion, the change came on 12 June 1986, when the South African Government imposed the emergency act. "With the possible exception of one Jew [Kahane], I do not believe there is any Jew who supports racism," Peres says. "Israel," concludes Peres, "does not determine either the global policy toward South Africa, or South Africa's status, so it would be arrogant and presumptuous to describe Israel as the leading or determining force."

Peres maintains that the eye-catching headlines focusing on Israel's position and activities vis-a-vis South Africa are out of proportion to their real dimensions. However, he says that the truth, as unpleasant as it may be, is that "we are debating the issue." He quotes from the scriptures to highlight Israel's empathy toward the blacks, saying this is not a new position, "although how to translate it into reality and to the language of policy — here there is indeed a problem." Peres notes that we have a "real, not imaginary, problem with our brethren there and their fate."

The Inner Cabinet therefore met on 18 March and adopted a number of resolutions, "none of which were easy to reach." One of them was to "once again express reservations over, condemnation of, and the rejection of any compromise on a discriminatory regime.

According to Jewish philosophy, every man is created in God's image, and not a man has been born who has the right to deprive a fellow man of his Godly image," regardless of color, faith, age, or sex. "There is no room for discrimination, whether it is called apartheid or any other name," Peres asserts. Peres relates that the second resolution is to "further restrict Israel's ties with South Africa." Third, and "unequivocally," the Inner Cabinet decided not to sign new Israeli-South African defense contracts. Fourth, a limited team will examine, in 2 months, "recommendations on the approach toward South Africa in the spirit of the policy exercised in the Free World."

Peres again points out in this context that "the Free World has no united stand on this issue." Thus, while the United States decided to sever air links with South Africa, Europe decided not to follow suit. "We would like to check what will be the right basket for us, what will be suitable for us, as every country takes its own considerations into account as well," Peres explains.

Peres summarizes by saying that "insofar as apartheid is concerned, we do not need any moral preaching by Stalinists. Insofar as racism is concerned, be it against non-Jews or Jews, no compromise is acceptable. This is our position.

Israel will not be the one to determine the best way to fight apartheid and racism. Rather, Israel will take its own considerations into an overall account, along with those of the Free World, and will work out its fabric of relations with South Africa." He repeats: "We will no longer sign contracts in the defense sphere." Peres ends his speech by calling on the House members "to make do" with his statement.

### South African Concern

*TA200853 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] The South African charge d'affaires in Israel last night handed Foreign Minister Peres a message from his government in which South Africa says that it sees no point in the measures adopted by Israel against South Africa and that it fears they will cause negative developments.

### No Serious Harm to Industry

*TA200531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Sources in the defense industry say that the cancellation of arms contracts with South Africa will not seriously harm the industry.

These sources also say that Israel's military exports to South Africa are not that great, and that Pretoria has been gradually reducing its imports in the defense field.

## Icelandic Premier Cites Gorbachev on Emigration

*TA051225 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Mar 87 pp 1, 5*

["Exclusive" report by Scandinavia correspondent Eliyahu Zehavi and political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Copenhagen — Icelandic Prime Minister Steingrimur Hermannsson yesterday stopped in Copenhagen on his way from Moscow to Reykjavik after a 2-hour meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev.

In a talk with *Ha'aretz* on his meeting in Moscow, Hermannsson said: I am convinced that Gorbachev is sincere. Gorbachev is a different Soviet leader from his predecessors, despite the fact that he emphasizes that the Soviet Union will remain communist.

The Icelandic prime minister said: "The meeting with Gorbachev was very frank. He answered all my questions. No issue was 'taboo.' When I raised the issue of Jewish emigration in the framework of human rights issues, I sensed a certain anger, perhaps because Gorbachev is being asked this question by every visiting Western guest. Gorbachev answered me in no uncertain terms: 'Wait and see, everything will work out. You will be surprised to see that it will be easier to emigrate from the Soviet Union than it is from the United States. In a short time the restrictions will be lifted and Soviet citizens will be able to visit abroad. There will also be a great change in the prisoner release issue. Wait and see, there will be great changes in the Soviet society.' "

Steingrimur Hermannsson added: "I cannot say if Gorbachev will manage to overcome those who oppose his policy."

Our political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar adds: [subhead]

Israel has informed the Soviet Union that it is still willing to grant visas to members of a Soviet survey delegation. Jerusalem expects that the Soviets will shortly apply for the visas, and that at the same time they will promise to grant visas to an Israeli delegation for a date close to that of the Soviet visit in Israel. The Soviets have in the last few days hinted that they are willing to grant exit permits to 11,000 refuseniks whose names appear on a list sent by the Americans.

However, in talks between senior Israeli and Soviet officials in New York and Washington, the Soviets have made it clear that the Soviet Union is not willing to promise to resume diplomatic relations or carry out a significant change in its emigration policy in exchange for Israeli agreement to its participation in an international conference. The Soviets only say that this will improve the atmosphere between the two countries.

## 'Diplomat' Meets With Soviet on Renewing Ties

*TA200556 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] This week another meeting took place in the United States between a high-ranking Soviet diplomat and an Israeli diplomat concerning the resumption of diplomatic relations between the

two countries. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the Soviet diplomat made it clear that, if Israel agrees to a preparatory conference leading to an international conference, this will bring about a turnabout in the Kremlin's stance and will contribute to the restoration of relations.

### Air Force Hits 'Terrorist' Base South of Sidon

*TA201404 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Air Force planes this afternoon attacked a terrorist base south of Sidon in Lebanon. All our planes returned safely to base. This is reported by the IDF spokesman. The pilots reported accurate hits on the target. The base that was attacked was located in a 1-story building. To repeat, all our planes returned safely to base.

### THE POST Reports Amal Political Reshuffle

*TA170813 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Mar 87 pp 1, 4*

[Report by David Rudge]

[Text] South Lebanese Amal Shi'ite leader Da'ud Da'ud and Mahmud Faqih, commander of the Al-Nabatiyah region, have been ousted in a political reshuffle of the Amal leadership, sources in south Lebanon reported.

Da'ud and Faqih have retained their positions in the Amal national politburo, but no longer exercise regional control.

The sources said it was too early to speculate what the changes portend, although they thought it unlikely there would be any immediate alteration in Amal's policy towards Israel and the security zone.

The reshuffle followed lengthy discussions of the Amal leadership in Beirut which neither Da'ud nor Faqih attended.

Under the changes Da'ud has been replaced by 'Abd al-Majid al-Salih, who now has the title of political leader of the south, while ('Atif Awn), president of Amal's executive council has become organizational leader of the region, effectively replacing Faqih as commander of the Al-Nabatiyah district.

The reshuffle is supposed to remain in effect for six months, after which the positions are due to be reconsidered.

But as one of the south Lebanese sources put it, "a lot can happen in Lebanon in six months."

Da'ud, although no friend of Israel, is considered moderate in Lebanese terms. Recently he resigned his post as south Lebanese Shi'ite leader, apparently in an effort to gauge the depth of grassroots support for his proposed reforms in the political and military functions of Amal.

Da'ud wanted to restrict Amal's military arm, which he felt had become too large and unruly.

At the same time he sought the authority and machinery to deal with trouble-makers. The proposed moves were seen as an attempt to prevent the inter-factional fighting that led to Syria's intervention in Beirut spilling over into the south, while boosting Da'ud's own position.

Da'ud appeared to have won the backing of the local population, who helped quell last month's attempted coup by former Amal strongman Hasan Hashim, a radical aligned with the PLO and the Iranian-backed Hizballah (Party of God).

Hashim, an advocate of militant extremism, had apparently intended to replace Faqih and Da'ud, but his supporters were overpowered by Amal militiamen loyal to national chief Nabih Birri.

Now, however, both Da'ud and Faqih have had the carpet pulled from under them by Birri and the Amal heirarchy.

Da'ud and Faqih have thus ironically found themselves out in the cold, along with the man who sought to topple them. Hashim has been ostracized and confined to his home village of Al-Marwaniyah, near Sidon.

Da'ud's successor, 'Abd al-Majid al-Salih, also a member of the national Amal politburo, until now had been responsible for labour and humanitarian affairs in south Lebanon.

A former schoolteacher, the new leader of south Lebanon's Shi'ites is regarded as even more of a pragmatist than Da'ud. The emphasis placed by the Amal hierarchy on the fact that the new appointments are only temporary has led most observers to believe that the restructuring is part of a general cooling-off period, in the light of the abortive coup, and Da'ud's sectarianism and anti-Syrian stance.

The timing of the reshuffle is significant. Syria, to which the Amal hierarchy owes its allegiance, has now established control over the warring factions in Beirut.

The Syrians have no love for Da'ud, who prevented them from negotiating an end to the Amal siege of Palestinian refugee camps in the south.

The reshuffle could, in this context, be seen as a sop to the Syrians. Da'ud, however, had recently shown signs of "empire-building" and had also been at loggerheads with Faqih over control of Amal in the south.

Da'ud was previously in charge of the southern region, while Faqih controlled the area from the Al-Litani River north to Beirut.

The reshuffle is seen by the South Lebanese sources as an attempt by Birri to reassert his control over the south through Al-Salih, his protege and loyal supporter.

The changeover of power also coincides with a surge of criticism from the communist-led National Resistance movement and the Hizballah about Amal's role in the south.

The communists, like the Hizballah, have accused Amal of serving Israeli interests by preventing actions against the "occupation forces" in south Lebanon.

Communist leader Dr. George Hawi, speaking at a memorial ceremony at the American University in Beirut last week, indirectly accused Amal in the south of acting as Israel's second buffer zone.

He accused the "sectarian forces" which control south Lebanon of arresting and torturing anti-Israel forces and preventing the National Resistance movement from carrying out its operations against the IDF and South Lebanese Army [SLA].

He charged the same (Amal) forces of destroying the medical infrastructure in south Lebanon, thereby creating a dependency on Israeli-supplied medical services.

He was referring to the killing, in south Lebanon in the past two weeks, of seven prominent communist sympathizers, the majority of them educated people, including doctors. As a result of the killings many doctors have fled north, leaving only three general practitioners to deal with a population of 250,000 in the Al-Nabatiyah region.

Hawi called for a special Lebanese Army brigade to re-establish central control in south Lebanon. If this did not work, he added, his party had formulated an action campaign to take over the security of the south and continue resistance operations.

It is debatable, according to sources in south Lebanon, just how seriously Hawi's threat should be taken.

Nevertheless, they noted that the National Resistance movement, although relatively small, was well organized and its members highly motivated.

The communist-led organization has claimed responsibility for a number of attacks against IDF and SLA forces in south Lebanon in the past 12 months, although the majority of actions have been fought by the Hizballah.

The organization aligned itself with the Druze against Amal in the Beirut fighting that preluded Syrian intervention. This, in turn, led to Amal reprisals in the south against people identified as communists.

The National Resistance movement is also pro-Syrian-orientated, unlike the Iranian-backed Hizballah, which has aligned itself with the PLO in the common fight against the "Zionist enemy."

The sources noted that 'Abd al-Majid al-Salih had a brother who was affiliated with the Communist Party. The brother was assassinated in Beirut two weeks ago.

Al-Salih, now a resident of Tyre, hails from the south Lebanese village of Yatar, which is close to the northern border of the security zone.

According to the south Lebanese sources, Al-Salih has remained aloof from the political in-fighting inside Amal and the controversy over allowing terrorists, including the PLO, to act within Amal's territory in the south. The fact that his dead brother was a committed communist could go some way towards appeasing the National Resistance movement.

The sources stressed, however, that Al-Salih had the interests of the south Lebanese Shi'ites at heart and was unlikely to do anything which was contrary to their wishes. Nevertheless, they did not rule out the possibility of increased attacks on IDF and SLA forces inside the security zone.

They noted that recent actions, including renewed Katyusha-rocket shelling and attempted infiltrations of the security zone, were a slap in the face for Amal and the residents of south Lebanon generally, the majority of whom have been trying to avoid becoming embroiled in the conflict, mainly out of fear of reprisals.

Amal itself, they said, might be forced to take up arms against IDF and SLA forces to counter the accusations of collaboration with Israel. It is still unclear, however, whether the reshuffle of the Amal leadership in the south will bring changes.

In the meantime, Israeli observers are keeping a close eye on the situation, in the hope that the influence of the Syrians and pro-Iranian factions in Lebanon will not lead to an upsurge of terrorist actions.

## SLA's Lahd Says PLO Fighters Now in Sidon

*JN192045 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Interview with Staff Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the Southern Lebanese Army, by Israeli radio correspondent Yitzhaq Halevi; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Halevi] Major General Antoine Lahd, would you please review the current situation in southern Lebanon, what is known as the security belt area?

[Lahd] The security situation in the security region, I would not say the security belt, is currently stable. We are now in the stage of retraining and increasing the number of Southern Lebanese Army [SLA] troops and reinforcing our centers to be prepared for any emergency in the future. As for the south in general, the Hizballah is gaining strength over other organizations.

Recently, after the Syrian forces' entry into West Beirut, many PLO fighters and a large part of the [Lebanese] Communist Party, which was fighting Amal [words indistinct] in the Sidon area, have come to Sidon. All these groups — the Hizballah, the Communist Party, the PLO, and Amal — are (?against) us. The more fighters that are there, the more operations are expected. We are therefore preparing ourselves for this.

[Halevi] Do you believe that Amal and Hizaballah are enemies of the SLA?

[Lahd] For me, they are all enemies of the SLA because they are all carrying out joint or individual operations against our positions. Thus, anyone who carries out military operations against my positions will be considered an enemy, whether he belongs to Amal, Hizballah, the Communist Party, or other factions.

[Halevi] Reports in the past said some of your troops have deserted the SLA. What is the current situation and how did you overcome this problem?

[Lahd] I believe the media have exaggerated things about SLA members deserting the Army. The reason for desertion was basically wages, because SLA wages were very low. However, wages have been increased. We now have as many volunteers as we can absorb, if not more.

[Halevi] How many people volunteered in the past weeks?

[Lahd] A month ago 2 [as heard] elements passed training courses and 70 elements passed 1 week ago. On 1 April our lists indicate that about 200 elements will join us.

[Halevi] Major General Antoine Lahd, what is the Iranian influence on the Lebanese arena in general and the south in particular?

[Lahd] No doubt the Lebanese in general and the Shi'ite in particular is very much influenced by his sect from a religious point of view. The Shi'ites consider Khomeyni the caliph. Many Shi'ites receive orders from Iran.

[Halevi] You talked about Syrian intervention in Beirut. Do you think this intervention will bring you trouble?

[Lahd] In its current form, the intervention's troubles are not very big. But if it expands outside West Beirut, the Syrian intervention will no doubt bring us trouble.

[Halevi] A question about the detainees in Al-Khiyam prison. Nabih Birri said he is ready to work to secure the release of foreign hostages in exchange for detainees held by Israel and the SLA.

[Lahd] I am against releasing criminals in exchange for foreign hostages. No doubt, some cases can be considered from a humanitarian point of view. But it is not possible to release all these detainees in exchange for innocents held by them. If there is a deal including civilians [words indistinct], but the basis is returning the SLA and IDF detainees. If this is achieved, things will be better. The same deal could include foreigners [word indsitnct].

[Halevi] Finally, have relations between you and UNIFIL improved?

[Lahd] Relations are now better.

## Fatah Anticipates Syrian Offensive in Lebanon

*TA191021 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Mar 87 p 5*

[Report by military correspondent Tzvi Alush]

[Text] Terrorists belonging to Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah organization in the Sidon area have recently been putting efforts into digging trenches and constructing a defense line facing north, toward Beirut, for fear that the Syrians, or Syrian supporting Lebanese forces, might move southward from Beirut and attack Palestinian strongholds in Sidon.

According to an Israeli military source, the Palestinian terrorists in the Sidon area have, over the last few months, shown clear signs of growing strength. They have managed to recruit additional fighters, who currently number 3,000 in the Sidon region, and have furthermore purchased weapons — mainly in Lebanon itself — through sympathizers from among the Druze sector and Hizballah.

According to the authorized military source, there are currently approximately 9,000 terrorists in Lebanon, most of whom belong to Yasir 'Arafat's Fatah.

Lately the terrorists have been placing great emphasis on their aerial capability. The pro-Syrian Salvation Front, Abu Musa's [Sa'd Musa Muragha] organization, has been procuring helicopters, light aircraft, and gliders and has been training pilots for aerial missions.

The military source also expressed the assessment that terrorists from Hizballah will continue to try to attack South Lebanese Army outposts and IDF patrols in the security strip, despite the defeats they have suffered over the last few months.

## Peres To Make Official Visit to Spain in April

*TA191026 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will visit Spain early next month. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that this will be an official reciprocal visit, following Minister Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez' visit to Israel last year.

## 'Difference of Opinion' Over Lavi Delays Budget

*TA191528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] A new dispute has emerged over the defense budget. Our economic affairs correspondent Me'ir Einstein reports that this time reference is to a difference of opinion with the Finance Minister over the allocation of funds for the Lavi project next year. Because of the dispute, the Finance Ministry has not yet submitted the defense budget to the Knesset Finance Committee for approval.

The director general of Israeli Aircraft Industries has said that the Lavi development plan and the rate of test flights will be

increased in the future, now that the weather is clearing up. The director general, Moshe Qeret, told our correspondent Elihu Ben-On that members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations had received reports in the United States that the Lavi was an inferior plane. The delegation of presidents today witnessed the Lavi on a 40-minute test flight.

**Public Military Call-Up Exercise Ends 19 Mar**
*TA191158 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
*1100 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The public call-up exercise that began yesterday afternoon ended this morning. The percentage of reservists who reported for duty was high and met the commanders' expectations. All the reservists were released after a short registration process at the recruitment centers throughout the country, where their names and the vehicles they brought with them were listed.

## LIBYA

### Official Replies to Raimond's Remarks on Chad

*LD200140 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] According to AFP, French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond has made a statement to the international magazine *Le Monde* about the Chadian problem. He said the Chadian question is linked to the interference of a state, and France has become more free to give the support required by Ndjamena, and the conflict in Chad is no longer a civil war.

In reply to this statement, a source from the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison stated the following:

First: All the pretexts that the French position is based on to justify France's intervention in Chad and its military occupation have become exposed and have foundered to confirm one reality: that is, the return of France with its power to occupy Chad, with the strategy of distributing its role mutually with the United States.

Second: The French minister is talking about the intervention of a state in Chad's affairs; I wonder what he calls the presence of 4,000 French soliers in Chad and the presence of *Jaguar* and *Mirage* aircraft, missiles, and other equipment and weapons in the Chadian territories that France [words indistinct] and has become more free, as alleged by the minister, to colonize Chad and spread death and destruction there.

Third: Mitterrand's statement are confirmed today by what came out of the mouth of the French foreign minister to support this inverted logic that rules the French position: that is, the option of a military solution to the internal conflict in Chad, wasting every effort made for national interest and belittlingthe efforts of the OAU in this direction.

Fourth: The French foreign minister knows well that confining the Chadian problem to its African context and looking for a solution to it with an African will that is unmanipulted by French fingers, on the grounds that this problem is an internal conflict between Chadian parties, will inevitably expose the French presence in Chad and Africa.

### Official Rejects Mediation To Free Plane, Crew

*LD200922 Kuwait KUNA in English 0841 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Kuwait, March 20 (KUNA) — The Libyan charge d'affaires in Kuwait Hassunah al-Shawish denied press reports Friday that his country has asked for mediation of a third party to the Egyptian authorities to release the Libyan military transport plane and its crew.

The diplomat said the Jamahiriyah will not accept mediation of a third party in the dispute and that Tripoli insists on release of the plane, which landed at one of Egypt's southern airports on March 4, and its 5-man crew.

The Egyptian Government alone shoulders responsibility for the detention of the plane and its crew against their will, the Libyan diplomat emphasised.

Although the Egyptian authorities had announced that the C-130 *Hercules* landed at Abu Sunbul Airport in southern Egypt and that its crew had asked for political asylum, press reports said that only the pilot and co-pilot asked for that right.

The fate of the other three crew members of the plane, whom Libya said had gone on hunger strike to pressure the Egyptian Government to return them home, is not immediately known.

### JANA Editor Criticizes Egyptian Exercises

*LD191256 Tripoli JANA in English 1045 GMT 19 Mar 87*

["JANA's Arab Affairs Editor Comments" — JANA headline]

[Text] Cairo, Al Marikh 20, JANA — The Egyptian Armed Forces conducted yesterday manoeuvres code-named 'Victory 9' in which a military armoured formation belonging to the central military region participated with formations of tanks supported by missiles B.M. 21, apart from the force of engineers, chemical, reconnaissance and infantry.

The Egyptian regime has alleged that these manoeuvres come within the purview of a combatant project commenced 3 days ago in which the Egytian Air Force participated launching night assaults against targets lying deep in the enemy's troops.

Commenting on the above, JANA's Arab affairs editor says that the Egyptian regime conducts from time to time military manoeuvres (?in) various parts of Egypt in which different kinds of weapons are used and large number of troops are used as well.

We, the editor continues, may wonder whether these manoeuvres are conducted against the Zionist entity which lies in occupied Palestine and Sinai. Its members enjoy now diplomatic immunity in the Egyptian capital and have their flag raised in the sky of Egypt defying the feelings of the Egyptian people, the Arab nation, let alone the entire Muslim community worldwide.

Taken the conduct of the Egyptian regime into account one will easily doubt whether the above manoeuvres are directed against the Zionist enemy, let alone U.S. imperialism which lies in waiting to colonize the Arab countries one by one.

One will surely and positively say that the above manoeuvres are not directed against the U.S.-Zionist enemy, for the Egyptian regime has placed the whole of Egypt with its economy and territory in the hands of imperialism. It has permitted the Americans to establish their bases on the Egyptian soil and has allowed the U.S. military fleets to frequent its seaports. Such a regime cannot be against the U.S. and its schemes. Such manoeuvres represent certainly a preparation on the part of the Egyptian regime to carry out the schemes of the U.S. in both the Arab region and Africa. This regime is playing now the role of U.S. watch-dog. Any allegation put forward by the puppet Egyptian regime regarding these manoeuvres is no more than a justification, let alone mere lies.

## SUDAN

### SPLA Terms Air Raids on Pibor 'Unsuccessful'

*EA191657 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Enemy fighter aircraft have carried out three unsuccessful air raids on the SPLA-held town of Pibor on the 11th, 12th and 14th of this month. One SPLA soldier is reported to have been slightly injured. Meanwhile, three civilians including a woman were killed in Kiyu village west of Pibor during the raid. Radio SPLA correspondent in Pibor says that SPLA antiaircraft units hit one of the enemy planes during the raid. The plane, according to the correspondent, flew in the direction of Juba with a trail of smoke issuing from its rear. It is not known whether the plane subsequently crashed or managed to land safely in Juba.

It is to be recalled that the SPLM-SPLA leader, Col Dr John Garang de Mabior, who has congratulated SPLA anti-aircraft units at Pibor for the good work, has dismissed during his latest press conference Khartoum's air raid against Pibor as uneffective. In response to journalists' questions as to what the SPLA would do in the face of Khartoum's air raid on Pibor, the SPLM-SPLA leader had said that it was not militarily possible to occupy ground from the air. By this the SPLA leader was implying that if Khartoum wanted to retake Pibor, then its forces would have to engage the SPLA in ground combat.

## TUNIS

### AL-'AMAL Interviews Sfar on Talks With Libya

*LD191454 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The prime minister gave an interview to the Tunisian *Al-'Amal* paper: Details from Mohamed Habib Bahri:

Prime Minister Rachid Sfar, in a lengthy statement published in today's *Al-'Amal*, organ of the Tunisian Socialist and Destourian Party, stressed that Brigadier al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, during his recent visit to Tunisia, expressed Libya's serious intention to solve differences between the two countries. Talks between Al-Humaydi and Tunisian officials were interesting and frank, and were not restricted to the economic sphere but involved all existing issues and principles to which both countries should adhere so relations can resume their normal course. Evaluating the results of this visit, the prime minister said we have had, through Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's envoy, a response to the vision of the development of relations as stipulated in the minutes of the meeting signed by Mansour Skhiri, Zine el Abidine ben Ali, and Brig al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi. He indicated that these minutes reviewed the settlement of the dues of Tunisian workers expelled in the summer of 1985, and the organization of manpower exchanges in the future in accordance with agreements signed in this connection. He pointed out that the Libyan side expressed its intention to give priority to recruiting Tunisian manpower in accordance with its needs.

Viewing the content of Tunisian-Libyan talks, Rachid Sfar indicated that various topics related to possible security cooperation, cooperation in the transporation and communications sectors, as well as intensifying trade and economic exchanges — which he said should return to normal in accordance with the agreement signed at the end of 1984, a few months before the occurence of the crisis — were discussed.

The prime minister stated that a mixed committee will convene before the end of March to study these issues and attempt to formulate a practical formula to overcome existing hurdles and to deepen the good intentions that were clear during the visit of Brig al-Kuwaylidi al-Humaydi to Tunisia.

With regard to resumption of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Rachid Sfar indicated that this would crown the normalizing of relations at all levels.

## DJIBOUTI

### President Orders Investigation of Cafe Bombing

*AB191220 Paris AFP in English 1204 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Djibouti, March 19 (AFP) — Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon sent a message of condolence to Paris, Bonn, and Rome Thursday [19 March] and vowed to find those responsible for a cafe bomb attack here Wednesday which officials said killed 11 people, including eight Europeans, and injured 26.

President Gouled, who faces elections next month, said the attack "aimed to destabilize our society and institutions" and the country's "peaceful climate."

He called on "all officials, and all the population" of the tiny Horn of Africa country to help find those responsible for the blast, which ripped through the central Historil Cafe during the evening rush hour Wednesday.

He said the reasons for the attack, which targeted a cafe frequented mainly by Europeans, "were still obscure" but "would be unveiled in an ongoing investigation."

President Gouled stressed the importance of ensuring the security of foreigners working in this former French colony, which has a large contingent of French troops under a defence agreement.

Officials said four Frenchmen, three West Germans, three Djiboutians, and an unidentified man of European appearance were killed in the attack.

Mr. Gouled's message to Rome led observers to believe the eleventh victim was Italian. However, a diplomat in Djibouti, reached by telephone from Paris, said the eleventh victim was also French. Those injured included an Italian, the diplomat said.

The four Frenchmen confirmed to have died were said to be a sergeant of the French Foreign Legion, two sailors from the French Navy, and a civilian aid worker. Their identities have not been revealed.

The Djiboutian Defence Ministry said another 25 French soldiers and family members were among the wounded.

The three West Germans were oceanographers whose ship had made a short call in Djibouti, the West German Research and Technology Ministry said Thursday, without revealing their identities.

The *Bild Zeitung* daily named the victims however as two men, Karl Buchalla and Christian-Guenther Reinschmmidt, and a woman, Annette Bartel. The ministry added that another five researchers from the ship were injured in the blast.

The diplomat in Djibouti confirmed that five West Germans were among the injured, along with about 15 French nationals, 12 Djiboutians, and an Italian, bringing the total wounded to about 33. An informed source in Paris said a Senegalese was also among the injured.

The French Embassy has said 45 people were wounded in the attack.

French Premier Jacques Chirac described the incident Thursday as "an absolutely intolerable" act, saying he had "no idea" on its aims. He said Paris was cooperating closely with Djibouti on treating the injured and on preventing such acts in the future.

Investigators said that the bomb appeared to have been placed near a pillar on the terrace of the cafe. There was no immediate word on what type of device triggered the explosion. The diplomat said debris from the device was currently being analysed. The blast blew a hole in the cafe ceiling. Several people were half buried in fallen masonry.

Djibouti security forces have cordoned off the neighbourhood near the cafe, but the rest of the city was quiet Thursday.

The French Embassy on Thursday rejected reports that the attack was a demonstration of anger against the heavy French presence in Djibouti, where France has a large military base. Some 4,000 French soldiers and their families live here, along with a large force of civilian aid workers.

"The Djiboutians are very attached to the French military presence here, which means security to them," an embassy official said. "The innumerable expressions of mutual sympathy between French and Djiboutian people after the attack is proof of this."

He said the attack was aimed to coincide with the end of a fund-raising conference here of the six-country Intergovernment Authority Against Drought (IGAAD) and several government and international finance agency delegations.

Last year in January, a small bomb damaged the offices of the ruling Popular Rally for Progress on the eve of a summit of IGAAD members. It was attributed by Djibouti authorities to supporters of Aden Robleh, a former minister of commerce, trade and tourism who defected to the opposition more than a year ago. Mr. Aden Robleh, a veteran of the independence struggle, was sentenced to life imprisonment and now lives in exile in Paris. But according to reliable sources, he recently left Paris for Addis Ababa, capital of Djibouti's neighbour, Ethiopia.

The explosion also comes close to legislative and presidential elections on April 24, when President Gouled will be seeking a new mandate.

## TANZANIA

### Prime Minister on Prices, Radio Transmitters

*EA191051 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 18 Mar 87*

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The prime minister and first vice president, Ndugu Joseph Warioba, has said the answer to

shortages of essential commodities and to inflated prices in the country is to work harder and produce more commodities.

Speaking to workers of Radio Tanzania today, Ndugu Warioba said the government's move to supervise the price of essential commodities is not enough because wherever a shortage of commodities exists it is difficult to supervise prices. However, he said the government is making efforts to obtain essential commodities like rice and sugar to curb arbitrary price rises of these commodities.

Earlier today, Ndugu Warioba toured the transmitting stations of Kunduchi, Mabibo, and Pugu Road in Dar es Salaam, where he was told by leaders and workers of Radio Tanzania that some of the transmitters were in poor condition and that others were off the air due to a shortage of water. [as heard]

The leaders and employees of Radio Tanzania said that at Kunduchi, Mabibo, and Pugu Road stations, many citizens farmed in the grounds of these stations, while others had been given plots to build houses in areas belonging to Radio Tanzania.

Ndugu Warioba pledged that his office would investigate the water crisis at the Mabibo and Kunduchi stations, and the cases of people provided with plots in the station's grounds or who farmed there.

The prime minister and the first vice president called on top officials in the country to involve newsmen in all important national activities to enable them to provide information on national developments in various parts of the country.

## UGANDA

### Broadcasting Official, Cuban Envoy Discuss Ties

*EA191117 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Mar 87*

[Text] The deputy minister of information and broadcasting, Mr Maumbe Mukwana, has hailed the strong relationship existing between Uganda and Cuba. Mr Maumbe Mukwana was receiving the Cuban ambassador to Uganda, Mr Evans-Nicholas, in his office at Nakasero this morning.

The deputy minister told the ambassador that Uganda has now joined the club of the progressives of mankind. He said the NRM Government is anti-imperialist and does not accept any kind of aggression, be it foreign or local. He said the NRM is a genuine movement, because it carries out its resolution without any foreign assistance.

The Cuban ambassador said Uganda has just undergone what Cuba experienced before, and expressed his government's willingness to establish exchange relations between the Cuban and Ugandan Television. The ambassador said a group of filmmakers from Cuba is preparing to visit Uganda any time to feature on the war-ravaged areas and the wildlfe.

Mr Maumbe Mukwana assured the ambassador that he was going to contact the director of television, and together with his staff will do everything possible to assist the delegation when they arrive.

## CHAD

### Libyan Units 'Annihilated' Near Ouadi Doum

*AB191408 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1353 GMT 19 Mar*

[Communique No 49 issued by the Chadian National Armed Forces High Command on 19 March in Ndjamena]

[Text] There was violent fighting today, 19 March 1987, at 0700 [0600 GMT] between the valiant FANT and the Libyan aggression troops between Bir Sora and Ouadi Doum, 45 km from Ouadi Doum. This fighting was particularly violent. The Libyan columns were totally annihilated. The detailed tally of this fierce fighting will be announced to you later.

### 384 Libyans Reported Killed

*AB201444 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1337 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Communique No 50 issued by the Chadian National Armed Forces High Command on 20 March in Ndjamena]

[Text] The violent fighting yesterday, 19 March 1987, at 0700 [0600 GMT] between the glorious Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] and the Libyan annexation troops at Bir Sora, resulted in a total and bitter defeat for Libyan troops. Here are the provisional results of that heroic action:

On the enemy side: 384 Libyans killed; 47 taken prisoner.

Equipment captured: 8 BMP tanks; 7 T-55 tanks; 11 jeeps equipped with 106-mm guns; 7 122-mm guns; 12 Toyota 14.5 vehicles; 9 Toyota vehicles equipped with ground-to-ground missiles; (?4) support Land Rover vehicles equipped with transceivers; 1 Toyota equipped with an air missile launcher; (?18) Mercedez transport vehicles; 9 Mercedez [words indistinct]; 2 trucks [words indistinct]; 22 Toyota troop transport vehicles; 1 sophisticated field stove; and a sizeable consignment of ammunition of various calibres.

Equipment destroyed: 1 Marchetti fighter plane and its crew shot down; 14 BMP tanks; 11 T-55 tanks; 6 Toyota 14.5 vehicles; [words indistinct] 106-mm guns; [words indistinct] 10 Toyota troop transport vehicles; 6 water tankers; and 1 Land Rover equipped with a transceiver.

On the allies side: we deplore that six martyrs fell gloriously and honorably on the battlefield, and 22 troops were wounded.

Furthermore, the enemy, who are being cornered more in the north by the valiant troops of the FANT, this morning, 20 March 1987, at 0600 local time, dropped a sizeable quantity of napalm bombs on the innocent civilian population at Fada.

Nothing will stop the valiant troops of Chad in the accomplishment of their noble mission to boot the Libyan occupationists out of the fatherland. FANT, always forward for the final assault!

## CONGO

### Prime Minister Comments on Economic Development

*PM201134 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 9 Mar 87 Supplement pp IV, V*

[Interview with Congolese Prime Minister Ange Edouard Poungui by Mohamed Larbi — date and place not given]

[Text] *El Moudjahid*: Congo is one of the countries that have launched a fierce fight against underdevelopment. In this connection, 1986 was the year in which the first 5-year plan was completed. Can you remind us of its objectives and give us an initial assessment?

Ange Edouard Poungui: The first 5-year plan, which our country has just completed, had four main objectives:

— Breaking with the legacy of the colonial apparatus and combating foreign economic dependence;

— Reconquering our national territory and uniting our regions by an appropriate policy of regional development;

— Building a production system in spheres other than oil;

— Increasing employment and improving the masses' standard of living.

Comrade Denis Sassou-Nguesso, the head of state, recently made an initial assessment of these results in his speech to the nation at the end of 1986. These are the main points: The total amount allocated to financing all the investments — including the state sector — for achieving the objectives listed above, was 1,109 billion CFA francs, at the 1981 value. At the end of 1986, 645 billion CFA francs paid by the state were mobilized according to the following sector distribution:

— Infrastructure: 384.3 billion, or 59.6 percent;

— Production sector: 142.6 billion, or 22.1 percent;

— State apparatus: 80 billion, or 12.4 percent;

— Social and cultural sector: 38.1 billion, or 5.9 percent.

In addition to that, there was the investment by state enterprises totaling 72 billion CFA francs. Thus, there was a total investment effort of 717 billion CFA francs, excluding donations.

In practical terms, around 300 projects included in the plan have been fully implemented in the past 5 years.

*El Moudjahid*: Like many Third World countries, Congo is affected by the world economic crisis. What effects has this had? Can you also remind us of the measures adopted through the structural adjustment program, which is now in its 2d year, and the introduction of an interim investment program?

Ange Edouard Poungui: The world economic crisis has affected our economy and has produced an instability in the economic and financial sphere that has prevented us from pursuing normal implementation of our first 5-year plan. In June 1985, this situation led the Congolese Labor Party Central Committee to adopt the structural adjustment program, which is a series of measures, both quantitative and qualitative, aimed at enabling us to ease the financial situation within 2 years by readjusting our spending to the true level of our resources and by restructuring the whole economy. But our economic situation deteriorated even more in January 1986 under the combined effects of the fall in the price of a barrel of oil and the fall in the dollar rate.

Consequently, we were forced to strengthen the measures adopted in June 1986. Drastic steps were taken to reduce state spending and spending by public sector enterprises. We submitted all state enterprises to a strategic audit with a view to carrying out a process of restructuring and recovery. Finally, given that interest payments on the debt had become too much of a burden — or at least a burden incompatible with our resources — we started negotiations to achieve the multilateral rescheduling of our foreign debt in the framework of the customary measures imposed on us by our creditors, most of whom are OECD members.

With regard to the interim investment program, it must be stated that it covers 2 years. Although it followed the first 5-year plan and although it takes the unfinished projects of the first 5-year plan into account, it is not a plan, but more a series of measures aimed at restructuring and reviving the national economy. Finally, due to the sudden and abrupt worsening of the crisis, the interim investment program is a necessary and essential step toward the second 5-year plan.

*El Moudjahid*: The developing countries are increasingly aware of the need to strengthen South-South cooperation. What is Congo's position on this question?

Ange Edouard Poungui: Congo signed the Lagos Agreement, which 7 years ago defined the strategy for developing the African Continent. South-South cooperation in the framework of the African Continent is one aspect of that strategy. Our states must work to implement it in an effective way. In our view, this is the way of achieving real collective economic liberation for all the continent's peoples.

In the broader framework of the Third World, this South-South cooperation ought to make it possible:

— To establish new international economic relations based on mutually advantageous economic exchanges;

— To promote commercial relations based on more equitable trade terms;

— To combine Third World countries' efforts to unite against the industrialized countries to eliminate protectionist barriers and to achieve control over the raw materials markets.

*El Moudjahid*: Algeria and Congo have already adopted this course. What is your view of the level attained by this cooperation?

Ange Edouard Poungui: The Congolese people, the Congolese Labor Party, and the Congolese Government greatly value Algerian-Congolese cooperation. It is a frank, disinterested, and exemplary cooperation that has reached a very considerable level.

It is one of the convincing examples of South-South cooperation. The results of this cooperation speak for themselves and satisfy the Congolese people. We can cite as examples the Algerian-Congolese forestry company and the courses provided in Algeria for a large number of Congolese students and trainees in many different spheres.

Congo and Algeria are two developing countries that have been struggling together against underdevelopment for more than 20 years. Algeria's noteworthy participation in the national fair in Pointe-Noire in August 1986 and the recent exhibition of industrial vehicles and a varied range of other products produced by Algeria's dynamic industry in Brazzaville from 12 through 17 January illustrate — if there was any need to do so — the determination of the two peoples and the two governments to work ever harder to strengthen the many ties that unite the two countries.

## BENIN

### Cotonou Warns 'Subversive Elements' at Schools

*AB191326 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 18 Mar 87*

[Station commentary]

[Text] There are some people in every human society who are called subversive elements. For peoples struggling for democracy and social progress, they are called reactionary elements. In societies that fight against democracy and social progress, they are regarded as revolutionary elements. In our country, where our militant people have stood tall since the historical date of 26 October 1972 in order to completely assume their destiny as a collective group of responsible people, subversive elements can disguise themselves in various masks but they will always be considered as miserable reactionary elements by the militant and hard working Beninese people.

The subversive elements should be aware of the fact that anyone who sows the angry seeds of unrest in our country will reap in tears and suffer from our revolutionary wrath. They should also be aware of the fact that the trick pulled by the thief who shouts and calls another person a thief will no longer deceive anyone. It is therefore ridiculous to ask for democratic conditions for yourself and to take a stand against repression when you force your neighbors to think and react like yourself, especially on political matters.

The subversive elements demand the respect of university immunity while forcing their fellow students, through threats, to join in their subversive reactionary maneuvers. The genuine terrorist activities of our subversive elements forced the students of the School of Administration to take a stand against their movement to protect their chancellor and teachers. The subversive elements within our society wrongly believe that a 1-day strike, that is a day of unprovoked violence on the campus and in the streets, will solve all problems. This incorrect belief is widely spread in the world of simple-minded people. The revolutionary power in Benin has always been very understanding because of its scientific methods to comprehend the problems facing it, methods which consist of examining the causes first before seeking solutions.

Our revolutionary state has never tried to cover up the difficulties facing our people due to the economic crisis. It has, therefore, always been the government that has tried to understand the students who are forever trying to solve their own problems outside the national circle, and that has examined student unrest and childish behavior with much understanding. This serves as proof that the Beninese Government is open-minded and regards itself as a single-class society and reacts accordingly. But this responsible attitude should not be mistaken for weakness, because the revolutionary power is capable of making a distinction between the elements who are influenced and lured into violence by a malignant manipulation of the real and concrete problems facing the students in their everyday life, and the subversive elements whose sole objective is to sow the seeds of unrest, which threatens the political stability and social peace prevailing in our country for 15 years now.

Therefore, the wrath and anger of the revolutionary government will strike the subversive elements. The political mercenaries do not differ from military mercenaries in their goal, which is to overthrow the revolutionary power to establish a reactionary power. Indeed, the local and international reactionary forces failed through military mercenaries on 16 January 1977. They are now trying out the political mercenaries for which elite soldiers are more easily recruited in student circles than anywhere else.

The international economic crisis triggers social unrest all over the world. These social upheavals can sometimes be tragic due to the people's concern to maintain social cohesion and unity. It is therefore thanks to our government's sound policy in all sectors of national life that we benefit from this social stability and peaceful social atmosphere which protect our nation from supplementary and unwanted suffering, added to that brought about by the international economic crisis. We should take advantage of this peaceful social atmosphere prevailing in our country to strive to find in unity, cohesion, and national solidarity the suitable solutions to our real problems created by the economic crisis, and meet the challenges facing our country in its irreversible progress toward the solution to our underdevelopment problems and hardship.

Down with troublemakers! Let us fight fiercely to safeguard our victories which are stability and social peace! Ready for revolution, the struggle continues!

## BURKINA FASO

### USSR Red Cross Group Visits, Donates Equipment

*AB191127 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Within the framework of its program of international friendship and understanding, a delegation of the Union of Societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent of the USSR has been visiting our country since Friday, 13 March. Led by Comrade (Alexy Tuliendyn), chairman of the Presidium of the Soviet Red Cross Executive Committee, the delegation has held several working sessions with the Burkinabe Red Cross Steering Committee and paid a courtesy call on the Health Ministry's permanent secretary. In order to experience everyday life in Burkina Faso's rural areas and to assess the impact of the 1985-1986 emergency aid program in the Sahel, the delegation visited Yatenga and Soum Provinces. At the last working session that will group the two Red Cross societies, topics to be discussed will include the various areas and forms of cooperation. It will be pointed out that the USSR Red Cross has donated an important consignment of surgical equipment to the Burkinabe Red Cross, to be used by the provincial hospitals. The delegation will leave our country tomorrow for Moscow.

## GAMBIA

### Jawara Swearing-In Ceremony Scheduled for 11 May

*AB191351 Dakar PANA in English 1209 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Banjul, 19 March (GINS/PANA) — Gambian President Dawda Jawara will be sworn to office on 11 May for a further five year term.

This follows the presidential and parliamentary elections which were held on 11 March and in which the incumbent won handsomely.

A press release from State House has said the vice president, cabinet ministers, and parliamentary secretaries shall continue in their respective offices until 10 May, when the president will name his new cabinet on swearing-in day or thereafter.

This directive, however, does not include those who have lost their parliamentary seats following the elections on 11 March.

### Opposition Candidates on 'Riggings' in Election

*AB191433 London BBC World Service in English 0730 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Now its already a week since the elections in The Gambia. And while the victorious President Jawara is back in power for at least another 5 years, many of his opponents are licking their wounds in defeat. Just as Babacar Gueye discovered, they are not happy losers, in fact, far from it. It seems to be a clear case of sour grapes for many candidates. There are even allegations that the PPP [People's Progressive Party], the ruling party, didn't play it fair. Jerry Jameh, the National Convention Party's [NCP] candidate for the Lower Nyume constituency, who lost the seat, has gone as far as to accuse the PPP of using rich patrons to bribe voters. But Babacar Gueye put it to Mr Jameh that the NCP also had its own wealthy patrons.

[Begin recording] [Jameh] No, the NCP was not using money to get the influence of the people. We use only money to buy fuel, petrol, and then go on campaigns to talk to people, give them ideas on how to go ahead with politics in The Gambia, and why the elections are held every 5 years. This is what we do.

[Gaye] Now, could you give me other examples of election irregularities apart from the dishing out of money?

[Jameh] No, I have no other idea on that.

[Gaye] So is it possible that you actually lost because some of your voters actually disappointed you?

[Jameh] Not necessarily some of my voters in the electorate disappointed me; I was with full confidence up to the last minute of voting, but when my pooling agents entered Kerewane and at the courtyard in Kerewane also, they were asked to hand over their boxes to the policemen around there and they were all sent away. So, there was nobody around who was taking care of my boxes other than the policemen and the commissioner.

[Gaye] Now, what are you going to do?

[Jameh] Ah, there is nothing I can do other than reporting the matter to our party leaders and I did that. [end recording]

That was Jerry Jameh, obviously not a satisfied customer. But Jibu Jang, the newly elected NCP member of parliament for Serakunde, Western Gambia isn't happy either. Although he won his seat, Mr Jang has also accused Sir Dawda's party of rigging the elections:

[Begin recording] [Jang] I am not quite happy. I'm convinced that all this leaves no doubt there was so many riggings of different natures and after detecting some irregularities during the process of elections, I had to warn my agents and insisted to the presiding officer that they should know and from that time they should insist on calling the two numbers on the registration, because on the registration card there are two numbers which are known as the registration number and the card number. The registration number is a handwritten one and the card number is a printed one that cannot be duplicated. I'm looking actually for various duplicated cards on which the numbers varied. These were all detected by me personally and at all cases, I had to call the attention of these presiding officers.

[Gaye] And in the instances that you called the attention of the presiding officer, did he take a fair decision?

[Jang] What he normally does is he rejected the persons from voting. But how many of those were able to be detected? Of course, most of them might have slipped. [passage indistinct]

[Gaye] Now, despite all these, what you call games, you managed to win. I mean how or why?

[Jang] It is because I was vigilant. [end recording]

### Jawara Reacts to Allegations

*AB191735 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Almost immediately after last week's general and presidential elections in The Gambia, the soundly defeated opposition parties were complaining about alleged irregularities that they claimed amounted to fraud. President Jawara's ruling PPP [People's Progressive Party], ran away with all but five of the parliamentary seats, and his two presidential opponents — Sherif Dibba, of the NCP [National Convention Party] and Assan Musa Camara of the GPP [Gambia People's Party] — even failed to retain theirs. In Banjul, Babacar Gaye asked President Jawara what his reactions were to the allegations of fraud:

[Begin recording] [Jawara] My reaction is that really they should have shown a little more grace; instead of that they tried to drum up false allegations of fraud. I think independent observers agree that these were free and fair elections. There was hardly any possibility of anybody manipulating these elections.

[Gaye] Now, if they should eventually come up with any queries, I am sure there will be avenues open to them in the laws to seek

any redress they would want. I mean, could you, from the top of your head, perhaps say whether this would be possible?

[Jawara] Oh yes, anyone who wants to petition on any grounds will certainly be able to do so.

[Gaye] Now, given your new 5-year mandate, and the fact that certain economic measures and policies that you had to implement like the ERP [Economic Recovery Program] fell at a rather inconvenient time, in that you were preparing for elections, there would be people who perhaps would think that because of the timing of the implementation of the ERP, you perhaps might have (?remerged) from certain measures, and that given your new 5-year term you may in fact apply more stringent economic measures. Would you comment on this?

[Jawara] I think it was this sort of situation which encouraged people like Assan Musa Camara to form their parties, hoping to capitalize on the inevitable hardships which an economic recovery program always brings to the people. There is no question of having soft-pedaled on the ERP because of the elections, and then now to intensify the implementation of it. No, that has not been the case. We implemented the ERP as it should have been implemented right from the word go, irrespective of the fact that we were approaching elections.

[Gaye] Now, 2 days after the elections, you are certainly busy thinking about your new appointments and also what policies and things you would institute. Given your new 5-year term and also the fact that you will be finishing a 5-year term at a time when people would think perhaps you will be considering retirement, would somebody, for example, be seen to be groomed?

[Jawara] As far as retirement is concerned, in politics there is really no retiring age, as far as I know: and to talk about retiring when I should be celebrating my victory is a little bit hard. [laughter] I think, instead of that you should give me time to celebrate the real great victory which I have scored, and to start my new term before I talk about possible retirement. [end recording]

## GHANA

### PNDC Member Receives USSR Friendship Group

*AB191637 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] A member of the PNDC, Ebo Tawiah, has observed that the drive by world powers to control the production of destructive weapons should be linked with an honest desire to end racism in all parts of the world. He said the quest for world peace would be meaningless if apartheid is allowed to continue flourishing in South Africa and racial discrimination persists in certain parts of the world. Ebo Tawiah was speaking to a 3-member USSR-Ghana Friendship Society delegation which called on him at the Castle, Osu. He said the Soviet Union has contributed to the attainment of peace through its active support for liberation movements in Africa and appealed to it to continue its assistance until colonialism is crushed.

On relations between Ghana and the Soviet Union, the PNDC member emphasized that this should not be limited to the ruling circles of the two countries. The peoples of the two countries should interact and by so doing concretize their relations.

The leader of the Soviet delegation, Dr Vladimir Loginov, who is also the minister of irrigation and water resources, [title as heard] said his country appreciates its relations with Ghana and would strive to improve it further in all spheres. He briefed the PNDC member about the Soviet Union's efforts at arms reduction to promote world peace and measures to strengthen the Soviet economy.

## NIGERIA

### States Continue To Curtail Religious Activities

#### Gongola State Bans Avtivities

*AB191541 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] All religious activities in Gongola State have been banned by the government. The ban does not, however, affect normal worshipping by Muslims on Fridays and Christians on Sundays. In a statement, the secretary to the state government, Alhaji Bahiru Bobo, said the measure had become imperative in view of the recent violent incident in parts of the country.

#### Ondo Religious Activities Limited

*AB191629 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] In Ondo state, religious activities are now to be restricted to churches and mosques. Governor Ekundayo Opaleye told a meeting of religious leaders in Akure today that religious programs on radio and television should be limited to Fridays and Sundays. Colonel Opaleye said open-air preaching and rallies would be allowed only after permission had been obtained from the police. The governor called for the spirit of cordiality and mutual trust among various religious groups in the state. He advised them not to allow external influences to undermine their peaceful coexistence. In his speech, the president of the Muslim organization in Ondo state, Alhaji (Donahio Ogulaayi), called on the Federal Government to introduce stringent measures against religious fanaticism.

#### Screening of New Religious Bodies

*AB191910 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The Council of Ministers met in Lagos today to consider memoranda from some government parastatals. The president, Major General Ibrahim Babangida, presided over the meeting. In an interview after the deliberations, Internal Affairs Minister Colonel John Shagaya said that new religious bodies will now be properly screened before they could be granted licenses. He said that this is part of efforts to prevent religious crisis in the country.

**Papers Back Babangida Stance on Religious Riots**
*AB190936 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[From the press review]

[Text] Writing under the headline, I.B.B.'s [initials of Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida] Master Stroke, the *Daily Times* endorses President Ibrahim Babangida's resolve to deal ruthlessly with all those who masterminded the recent religious crisis in Kaduna State. It agrees with the president's charge that the tribunal, constituted to try all those involved in the disturbances, should ensure that there were no sacred cows. According to the *Times*, no punishment will be considered too severe for unpatriotic citizens who wanted to destabilize the nation under the guise of religion. The paper calls on religious leaders to educate their followers about the need for love for their fellow men, tolerance for other religious, and peaceful coexistence with all citizens.

In a related editorial, the *Nigerian Chronicle* commends the Federal Government for banning special religious associations and organizations in institutions of higher learning. The paper wants the ban to be permanent, because, according to the *Chronicle*, it will help to curb religious intolerance and consequent clashes in the country.

**Bauchi State School Closed After Disturbances**
*AB192131 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] One more educational institution in Bauchi State, Government Secondary School, (?Miri), has been closed down. The closure was ordered in Bauchi today by Governor Chris Garba who said that a committee had been set up to look into the cause of the disturbances in the school. He said that any student found to be involved in the disturbances would be sent to the special tribunal for trial. The governor had earlier ordered the closure of five educational institutions in the wake of the recent disturbances in parts of the country.

## ANGOLA

### USSR Delegation Ends Visit, Departs for Zambia

*MB191219 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The Soviet parliamentary delegation, which had been in Luanda since Monday, ended its working visit to our country yesterday (?after holding talks) with Angolan deputies. The Soviet delegation, led by Pavel Gilashvili, CPSU Central Auditing Commission member and USSR Supreme Soviet deputy chairman, met yesterday with a group Luanda Provincial People's Assembly deputies. During the meeting, Pavel Gilashvili spoke about ongoing changes in the USSR and the measures adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress. Orlando Rodrigues, first secretary of the Luanda Provincial People's Assembly, informed the Soviets about the country's (?prevailing) economic and political situation and the development plans and projects.

It will be recalled that the day before yesterday, after having been received by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the head of the Soviet delegation held a news conference during which he stated that Pretoria's criminal policy was the true cause and essence of the prevailing crisis in southern Africa. The Soviet parliamentary delegation left Luanda yesterday for Lusaka on a working visit as part of its tour of several Frontline States.

### GDR Education Ministry Delegation Departs

*MB191459 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The GDR Ministry of Education delegation left our country yesterday. In Luanda, the delegation participated in the proceedings of the seventh session of the education subcommission of the Angolan-GDR Joint Cooperation Commission. The GDR delegation had been in our country since 11 March. Werner Engst, GDR deputy minister of public education and head of the GDR delegation, said his delegation was satisfied with results achieved in the talks which led to the signing of two protocol accords. One of the accords is connected with the correspondence of qualification certificates, degrees, and academic titles between the two countries. During its stay in our country, the GDR delegation, accompanied by Joaquim Matias, deputy minister of education for basic training, visited Huila Province. In Lubango, the visiting delegation familiarized itself with different structures of the Ministry of Education, having visited the installations of the Higher Institute of Science and Education and (?Friedrich Engels) Intermediate Institute.

### UNITA Intelligence Chief Optimistic About Talks

*MB191014 (Clandestine) KUP in French to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 19 Mar (KUP) — Brigadier Peregrino Wambu, UNITA's chief of military intelligence staff, said it is UNITA's aim this year to break up the MPLA regime's intransigence and force it to negotiate. During an interview granted to a Portuguese journalist in Jamba, Brigadier Wambu said the new strategy will prove to the MPLA regime that it cannot end the 11-year-old Angolan conflict through force of the arms but only through a negotiated settlement between the two warring parties.

He said morale among the MPLA-FAPLA forces is very low, and this is leading to desertions among commanders and soldiers, some of whom surrender to UNITA, while others cross the border into neighboring countries. He said the FAPLA soldiers are tired of false stories and promises by their Soviet and Cuban allies, because they have long since given up any hope of winning the war against UNITA.

Brigadier Wambu said UNITA has the capability to defend itself against any enemy incursion into its liberated territory. Despite the enemy's superiority in weapons, UNITA enjoys the unique advantage of having the people on its side and long experience in war.

## MALAWI

### Lilongwe Reportedly To Send Troops to Mozambique

*AU191155 Paris AFP in English 1124 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Brussels, March 19 (AFP) — Malawi will send troops into Mozambique to protect the rail link to the port of Nacala from guerrilla attacks, an EEC Commission spokesman said in Brussels. Malawi President Kamuzu Banda told European Development Commissioner Lorenzo Natali he would contribute to the military protection of the so-called Nacala Corridor linking the port to land-locked Malawi.

Mr. Banda, who met Mr. Natali in Malawi's capital Lilongwe during the commissioner's tour of southern Africa last week, said he would "send soldiers against" the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) guerrillas fighting the regime of President Joaquin Chissano, if they continued to sabotage the Nacala Corridor, a lifeline for Malawi's economy.

Disturbances created by the MNR in rail and road links have forced Malawi to move its main export products — tobacco, tea and sugar — through Zimbabwe and South Africa, at an extra cost of 100 million dollars, according to Mr. Banda. This was an unacceptable situation considering his country's balance of payments difficulties, the president told Mr. Natali.

Malawi, which does not belong to the Frontline States opposing South Africa, has been criticized by these states for its indulgence towards South Africa and the MNR. Last October, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique directly confronted Mr. Banda on the issue and threatened to retaliate for his alleged harbouring of MNR guerrillas by blockading his country.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### Swedish Politician Ends Visit, Departs for Harare

*MB191252 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The secretary general of the Swedish Social Democratic Party, Bo Toresson, has expressed satisfaction at his 3-day stay in Mozambique. Mr Toresson was speaking in Maputo yesterday moments before leaving for Harare for another official visit to Zimbabwe. He said he had been able to learn that there are some common points of view between the Swedish Social Democratic Party and the Frelimo Party.

After his visit to Zimbabwe, Mr Toresson will also be visiting Zambia where, among other personalities, he will meet with leading officials of the African National Congress.

## NAMIBIA

### Sam Nujoma Denies RSA Military Control

*PM180758 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 12 Mar 87 p 6*

[Ana Camacho report: "Sam Nujoma: 'South Africa Has Failed to Defeat Us'"]

[Text] Madrid — "South Africa has failed to inflict a military defeat on the Namibian people" and to trick them with the "puppet farce" constituted by the provisional government imposed in June 1986, *El Pais* was told by South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO] Chairman Sam Nujoma, who has been combating Pretoria for the past 21 years to win independence for Namibia — a large territory, mostly desert but rich in diamonds, copper, and uranium. "It is a huge country in which there is room for everyone — lions, giraffes, elephants, blacks, and, of course, whites," the African leader said. Sam Nujoma's visit to Spain ended yesterday.

SWAPO's political situation — The racist South African Government imposed a so-called transitional government on Namibia in June last year. It is simply a maneuver to try to deceive the Namibian people and to postpone its withdrawal from the country as required by UN Resolution 435. It has not been legitimized by a vote and does not enjoy the people's support.

Military situation — It is not true, as Pretoria claims, that South Africa has gained military control of Namibia. There is an undeniable fact: SWAPO has been waging a liberation war for the past 21 years, during which time it has managed to survive South Africa's attempts to eliminate it and to consolidate Namibia's annexation. Special operations carried out by units trained like the Nazi SS, the impressment of natives, bombardments by the South African Air Force, the murder of our refugees in Angola, attacks and raids on populations and schools, and the barrage of propaganda conducted by uniformed men brandishing the Bible have not defeated us. Namibia has only 1.5 million inhabitants. If all the communiques in which South Africa claimed to have killed SWAPO guerrillas were true there would now be nobody left alive in our country.

Relations with the African National Congress [ANC] — There is close cooperation between SWAPO and the ANC, because we are combating, albeit with different objectives, the same enemy — Pieter Botha's racist regime. Of course, when it comes to fighting we confine ourselves to each acting within our own territory.

Political platform — Our aim on the domestic plane is to establish a democratic government following an election involving all the political groups; to concentrate our efforts on improving the living standards of the masses exploited by the colonialist regime; and, on the international plane, to pursue a neutral and nonaligned policy.

Relations with the United States — President Reagan has formulated the theory of linkage, that is, that Namibia's decolonization by South Africa must be linked with a total withdrawal of the Cuban troops stationed in Angola. It is hypocritical. Angola is a sovereign state and it is its duty to defend its people and territorial integrity against the daily bombardments of its territory by the South Africans and by the guerrilla bandits of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola trained by Pretoria. On the other hand, there is the positive action by Congress, which approved economic sanctions against South Africa.

Relations with the EC — Our chief desire is for the EC countries — especially the UK and FRG — to follow the U.S. example. We particularly consider the FGR's behavior as serious which, apart from supplying vehicles to the South African infantry, is at present negotiating with South Africa on the possibility of burying nuclear waste in the Namibian desert.

Relations with the USSR — Our principal allies are the Frontline States. I do not deny that the Soviet Union grants us substantial support. France and the UK allied with Russia in World War II to combat Hitler. Why should we not accept Soviet aid to eliminate the South African Nazi occupation?

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Politicians Comment on Independents' Chances

*MB191957 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1830 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Report on separate interviews with Horace van Rensburg, independent candidate for Bryanston; Colin Elgin, leader of PFP; Koos Van der Merwe, CP MP for Jeppe; Wynand Malan, independent candidate for Randburg; and Barend Du Plessis, minister of finance and NP information spokesman, by Freek Robinson, Barbara Fouche, and Louis de Villiers, on the "Network" program, introduced by Gillian van Houten and John Bishop; video-recorded passages in quotation marks]

[Text] [Van Houten] Unlike in recent elections, the role of independent candidates has been one of the focal points of the present campaign. Of the 10 prospective candidates most attention has been given to three former National Party members who are now standing as independents. They are Dr Denis Worrall, Mr Wynand Malan, and Dr Esther Lategan.

[Bishop] Now these three have formed a loose alliance and have issued a joint manifesto. Now before we examine this grouping we talk to Mr Horace van Rensburg, former PFP member of parliament who will be contesting Bryanston as an independent.

[Robinson] "Mr van Rensburg, why have you decided to stand as an independent?

[Van Rensburg] "I recently resigned from the PFP, and in resigning from the PFP I stated certain fundamental principles on which I based my resignation from the party and my belief for the future of the country. I believe it is important to give the voters of Bryanston an opportunity to judge me on those principles and to either support my stand or to oppose my stand.

[Robinson] "Do you see anything significant in the fact that there are so many independents in the field now?

[Van Rensburg] "I think there is a very definite significance attached to that. It indicates that the political situation in South Africa has become fluid. I think the logjam is starting to break up, and there is a great deal of interest. The public of South Africa yearn for new ideas, for new directions and for solutions to our pressing problems.

[Robinson] "Now what can you do that?

[Van Rensburg] "I believe that I can contribute very significantly to that need in the country. Particularly as an independent one can speak out openly and constructively and honestly at all times. I have found, for instance, that as a member of the PFP there were certain restrictions on one in terms of party policy and attitude. I have discovered that less than 10 percent of PFP supporters throughout the country, for instance, realize that the PFP stands for the unbanning of the Communist Party and to allow the Communist Party to operate as a legitimate party in South Africa. Also less than 10 percent of PFP supporters realize that its policy would lead immediately to a black majority government. Now I have tried to put these facts to the public, but it is not a very popular concept in the party to speak openly and boldly like that.

[Robinson] "Some PFP people say that you are only in the field to be attacking them, to attack them and not only, and actually not to be constructive. [sentence as heard]

[Van Rensburg] "I would like to invite the PFP people to meet me on public platforms where we can debate objectively, honestly, and constructively the political issues of the day. I think it would be better if we avoided petty and personal attacks. It detracts from the whole political debate, and I am not prepared to particiapte in that.

[Robinson] "In practical terms, what do you think can you achieve when you are returned to parliament once elected, if elected in the election?

[Van Rensburg] "I think if you look at the publicity that has been given to the independents over the last few weeks, it is quite clear that people with good ideas, sound ideas, will be able to make a very constructive contribution to the political debate in South Africa...

[Robinson, interrupting] "Only in terms of, only the debate, not in terms of anything practical that you can do?

[Van Rensburg] "In parliament one only contributes to the debate, but also if one adopts my approach of responsible constructive opposition, rather than being negative and destructive all the time, spreading gloom and despair. If one is prepared to be constructive, and one is prepared to assist the government sincerely in the solution of problems, I find that one gets a very good response from them, and one can contribute by encouraging the government when they do things that are right, and suggesting solutions and ideas to meet the problems of the country. In that respect independents can make a very valuable contribution.

[Robinson] "Lastly, Mr Van Rensburg, do you think that alliance politics between various parties and peoples can be successful in South Africa today?

[Van Rensburg] "It depends. If the alliance is based on a program of fundamental principles on which everybody agrees, then alliance politics has a contribution to make. However, if it is an alliance of convenience, in other words the people get together just for the sake of expediency in order to achieve certain material objectives, politically speaking, then I think such an alliance is doomed to ultimate failure, because people that disagree with one another will continue to disagree irrespective of whether they get together just for the short term."

[Van Houten] Although Mr van Rensburg has left the PFP, the party supports an alliance of reform-minded independents. Our political correspondent, Freek Robinson again spoke to PFP leader, Mr Colin Eglin.

[Robinson] "Mr Eglin, do you have any specific explanation why we suddenly have several independent candidates standing in this election?

[Eglin] "Well, I would have been surprised if there wasn't this phenomenon. Last year my party did some in-depth research into the political scene, and it was quite clear that there was a considerable sector of the voting public that were drifting around looking for something new, and that there was about 10 percent of the voting public forming 22 percent of the Nationalist, who ideologically had moved away from the National Party and were looking for a new political home. So it was inevitable that something new was going to emerge in this election.

[Robinson] "Only as a result of problems within the National Party — is that how you see it?

[Eglin] "No, it is not a question of the National Party per se. I believe that there is a ground swell developing in South Africa among white voters. They want to get away from traditional party politics. They are looking for something new, and in particular within the National Party that 22 percent find themselves out of tune with government thinking, and they are getting

a little bit tired of the hectoring, bullying approach of the government.

[Robinson] "What is your perception of what the independents want to achieve?

[Eglin] "Really, you must ask them what they want to achieve. What I think they are going to achieve whether they want to or not — and I am really talking of Dr Lategan, Mr Worrall, and Mr Wynand Malan, because they form a core of independents who have broken away from the National Party; there will be all kinds of fly-by-nights as well, but I am talking of them as the core of the independents — I believe they are going to be an important catalyst. They are going to lead people away from established orthodox, fossilized party politics into some new political dispensation. So they will play a very important catalytic role in South African politics.

[Robinson] "But will they not also to a degree divert attention away from your party and policies?

[Eglin] "Yes, I would expect them to divert some attention. But you know, I am not playing small-time party politics at the moment. I think the situation in the country is far too serious. What is important for me is that those people who genuinely want to get rid of apartheid and who want to negotiate a new nonracial constitution should free themselves of the existing party-political commitments and somehow, down the track, come together in some new alignment, some new alliance, which I believe has got the (?potential possibility) of becoming the official government in South Africa.

[Robinson] "On the other hand it is said that now in the election campaign you are actually damaging their cause by embracing them.

[Eglin] "No, I am not embracing them at all. I just accept them as a reality, in terms of the trust of what they are saying. I am not prescribing to those three individuals. What they are saying is that South Africa has got to abandon apartheid, and that means the Group Areas Act and race classification, and they have got to get down to genuine negotiaton. Now the fact that they may be saying the same thing as the PFP is their indaba [affair]. Oh, I believe it is important that people who have that like mind should start spelling out what they stand for and in due course it could lead to a regrouping.

[Robinson] "Mr Eglin, do you belive, and are you convinced that today in South African politics there is a place for multiparty alliance such as the one between independents, PFP, NRP [New Republic Party] — if there is an alliance with the independents included?

[Eglin] "Well, right at the moment there is not that kind of alliance. There is a pact and alliance between the NRP and the PFP. There is no alliance with the independents per se. But if you ask me, South Africa is moving away from fossilized party politics into alliance politics. Every time there has been a change of government in the past in South Africa, it has been by way of alliances. May I just mention that even if one got rid of the present government, let us pressume I was the state president of South Africa, head of an alliance government — moderate people wanting to get rid of apartheid — and we wanted to include blacks in the political structures, there is no way we could wait for them all to resign from their existing political groupings to joint the PFP. In fact, South Africa would have to move into, not only alliances amongst the whites, but alliances fanning out among coloreds, Indians, and blacks. So I think we have got to accept that South Africa has moved away from rigid old-time party politics into the new era of alliance politics."

[Bishop] And Mr Koos van der Merwe of the Conservative Party gave his party's views on the independents to Barbara Fouche.

[Van der Merwe] "I think they have come forward because they are disillusioned with the fact that the National Party has no plan, no vision, for the future.

[Fouche] "What would you say is their purpose?

[Van der Merwe] "Their purpose is in fact to establish a new leftist political party.

[Fouche] "How do you see the role that they are playing in South Africa at the moment in a wider sense?

[Van der Merwe] "The role that they are playing is that, I think, they wish to lay stress on the fact that the government has no vision, it has no plan, and that they think they have that plan, and they think the electorate is ripe for their own plans; whilst we on the right-hand spectrum think that the electorate in fact want separate development, so that eventually you will find these independents forming a political party on the left and the Conservative Party on the right, and that will bring you back to the two-stream political situation in South Africa — the traditional one.

[Fouche] "Do you think that a multiparty political dispensation is a viable option for South Africa?

[Van der Merwe] "It has never really worked. In this country you find that the political debate is dominated by the racial question, and there you in fact have only one of two solutions — separation or integration — and that is why you have always had only two parties. The right-hand party, which we will be in future, the strong right party, and you will have the left for the integrationists, which will be the Wynand Malan, Denis Worrall, Lategan faction in future.

[Fouche] "Thank you."

[Van Houten] Next on "Network" we continue the debate on the independent candidates. We talk to Mr Wynand Malan and Mr Barend du Plessis. That comes after this break.

[Bishop] After being a Nationalist MP for 12 years, Mr Wynand Malan is the first of his party to put himself forward as an independent for this election. He will be contesting his own seat in Randburg.

[Robinson] "Mr Malan, why have you decided to stand as an

independent, and what does it mean to be an independent?

[Malan] "I decided to stand as independent because it became impossible for me to stay within the party, at least to stand in the election on a National Party platform where I could not reconcile certain of the policies with my conscience. What it means to stand as independent is really to be able to open a debate where we can discuss the future of this country and move away from the stale politics of the past where we seem to campaign against the West, against sanctions, against boycotts and really seek the future for all here.

[Robinson] "Apart from yourself, Dr Denis Worrall, and Dr Esther Lategan, there are also other independents in the field. Do you have any specific explanation why suddenly we have this phenomena in South African politics today.

[Malan] "I have no doubt that for a long time there has been a strong unhappiness within the general electorate about the incapacity of government to really move towards the future, to get the future towards (?us), and in general also with political parties where they seem to have a very rigid stand, rigid approach, almost dogmatic — do it my way or forget about it. Whereas I think the electorate in general would want to see an involvement of people of the broad middle group really moving us towards the democratic future, away from confrontational politics.

[Robinson] "Now, do you think you can achieve that as an independent? How are you going to achieve that?

[Malan] "I have no doubt that I am not part of the power game as far as the election now is concerned, but merely to open and focus this debate, this feeling, this spirit that is prevalent in South Africa. That will mean a lot to really get the debate also at this level amongst other political parties and get the people involved in a movement, firstly aimed at 1989, and in a way to get the government to take a new approach, a fundamentally new approach.

[Robinson] "You think you have the force of persuasion to actually get them moving — you with other independents?

[Malan] "Well, I have my doubts about the present government, but if I say the government I am not speaking necessarily of the present government. It could also be a change in government, and I personally have my doubts whether this government will go that way, but we may achieve eventually a change in government.

[Robinson] "And you see yourself as part of that change of government. Are you aiming, actually, to take over the government, so to speak, in 1989?

[Malan] "Yes, that is certainly the approach in 1989, after the elections, to have a new government in power which would adopt this as a stand. I am not particularly interested in leading that government, but I would like to see, for the sake of the future of this country, a government that will take that approach.

[Robinson] "Would that mean that you would align yourself with other parties or perhaps a new party, actually to achieve that?

[Malan] "It is most likely that the independent movement will develop into a political party. If we talk about alignment, yes, that may be a possibility. It may also be a possibility that, through the initiative that is now being taken, the National Party as such may change itself somewhere there. It even remains a possibility, although I deem it remote, that the government can reform itself somewhere there and take the new approach.

[Robinson] "The PFP sees yourself, Dr Denis Worrall, and Dr Esther Lategan as an alliance to the left of the government. Do you see yourself if that position, and do you want to be aligned with the PFP? That is firstly, and, secondly, do you think there is a place for alignment politics in South Africa?

[Malan] "There is certainly a place for multiparty politics in South Africa. I don't see myself or the movement as such in alignment with the Progressive Federal Party. I mentioned earlier that I believe all the political parties have a fairly rigid approach and that goes also for the PFP — taking a fairly liberal stance which I believe may be applied in really a (?First) World. If you look at their proposed constitution, their proposal at the negotiations, it remains too much of a liberal democratic approach."

[Van Houten] Mr Barend du Plessis, the minister of finance, is also the chief information spokesman for the National Party. Louis de Villiers spoke to him in Cape Town.

[Du Plessis] "I think we must distinguish between the people who resign from the party from time to time — it's their democratic right to do it — and the people who are prepared to stand as independents. It is a phenomenon that we find from time to time; independents have been a feature in South African party politics and in the elections for a long time.

[De Villiers] "But it is the first time really we have had an alignment of the independents.

[Du Plessis] "Yes, but are you still independent if you align yourslef? And that is exactly the strange phenomenon that is taking place right now. At first, they said that they were really not going to oppose the National Party, that they really only wanted to give a message for quicker and more intensive reform. But right now, they are fighting the National Party tooth and nail. And in aligning themselves in a particular group, it appears that they are moving toward the formation of a new party. So, that is a very interesting development that is taking place, as far as the independents are concerned.

[De Villiers] "You have read their manifesto. Do they differ from the National Party fundamentally?

[Du Plessis] "They said a few things with which we differ, but why do they fight us, then, if they don't differ? In other words, then, if not displayed in their manifesto, then there is something else driving them to fight us the way they do, and obviously, they find much more comfort in their association or in their acceptability to the PFP.

[De Villiers] "Mr du Plessis, this linking of the independents to the Progressive Federal Party, isn't this just part of the Nat tactic

of linking everybody to the left of the National Party to the PFP, who in turn then is linked to the ANC, and everybody on the right of the National Party, trying to put them in the same kraal [ring, arena] as the AWB?

[Du Plessis] "It seems that basically we have three broad political movements, possible directions in white politics, and anybody left from the National Party must of necessity also feel themselves close to the PFP.

[De Villiers] "So, is there no place between the two parties for any other?

[Du Plesis] "No, really, not... [changes thought] we haven't heard them attacking the Federal Party the way that they have been attacking the government.

[De Villiers] "The National Party says it is not dragging its feet towards reform. If these people, both the disenchanted people and the three indepedents who were in the know in the party say it is so, who are we to believe?

[Du Plessis] "I don't think they were in the know. I think Dawid de Villiers, our colleague, really summed it up very well indeed, very aptly, when he said that he preferred to be a participating reformer rather than a protesting reformer, because participating in the reform process is much more constructive and much more satisfying than protesting. You can't always have your way, and certainly by going independent, you will find it extremely difficult to find a really strong platform from which to influence events in politics, because influences in South Africa, political influences, are normally aligned along party lines, and even if the odd independent does win a seat and get himself into Parliament, where he will he stand? Unless he associates himself with the broad oppostion, he will find it extremely difficult to really effectively take part in proceedings.

[De Villiers] "But is it not true that the National Party is merely reforming apartheid?

[Du Plessis] "Now, what is apartheid? Apartheid is discrimination, and I think one of the major problems that we face also in the world at large is to differentiate between accepting the variety in South African society and that is called differentiation. I don't want to create the impression that I am playing with words, but if you don't view South Africa as a collection of minorities, then you ignore that fact at your own peril, and you have to include it in your construction of a constitutional framework.

"And reform should not only be viewed as a process affecting constitutional processes in South Africa. We have been reforming this country over a wide area of human interest. We are busy with an investigation into what can be a drastic reform and renewal in our taxation process. We are implementing drastic reforms in the management of state finances, and we are investing vast amounts of money over restructuring of the social infrastructures in South Africa, a whole new era that we are entering, as far as housing is concerned and so on.

"So, we are committed to orderly reform in a variety of areas, also constitutionally. My goodness, where were we only a few years ago? And we are asking for a mandate to negotiate the ultimate reform in South Africa: mainly, to share power with blacks. But not the kind of reforms that approach the issue like the rest of Africa did, as a laissez-faire business and when only political alignments are appropriate. We will negotiate reform, orderly reform, on the basis of power sharing, but with proper protection for groups and minorities and that is a vital condition.

[De Villiers] "Yet now we have three independents that were former supporters of the National Party that are willing to risk the political wilderness, as it were, because they are saying that you are not doing they things that you are saying you are doing?

[Du Plessis] "I do not accept that. There is room in a party, such as the National Party, for people who can differ about the pace of things. But if they have fundamental differences, and if they want to make a point outside of the party, then they are free to leave the party, and I think that is what happened.

[De Villiers] "The emphasis on group of the National Party — could that not be seen as a continuation of apartheid?

[Du Plessis] "No, no. It is facing up to the reality, neither the absolute group idea as propounded by the Conservative Party, nor complete freedom of association, which results in a one-man-one-vote system; neither of these two concepts or phenomena is strong enough to structure an entire constitution on, and that is why the National Party says that it is necessary to keep in mind the reality of the diversity of South Africa, and the need to protect groups in the negotiation process.

[De Villiers] "If the independents were to do well in the election, how would the National Party see this? What signal would it see in this?

[Du Plessis] "The National Party will take a signal from its own voters. The National Party stands for certain principles, and stands for orderly reform; the National Party has a lot of experience over the last, which it gained over the last 2 and 1/2 years in the negotiation process, and not a single independent was that closely involved in the whole process to really be able to say, to cast a final judgment as to the pace or the direction of the National Party's reform process.

[De Villiers] "But surely if Mr Chris Heunis were to come close to losing, or even perhaps lose — it is too difficult to speculate at all, in Helderberg, of course — but won't that be a sign that at least part of the electorate is not very happy with the government's handling of reform?

[Du Plessis] "You know, it is quite possible that that is the message that can come out of it, but what will be more important is what do the rest of the voters say? I mean, we are a very large constituency in this country, a very large electorate. What do the rest of the people say? And even if all three of them should win, or more should win, then it will still be an extremely small minority in parliament. I think they will have to group themselves together, and they will have to base their participation in Parliament on certain fundamental principles; and the moment you

start binding yourself to certain principles, then you are not that independent any more.

[De Villiers] "Could you quantify perhaps for us, as a last question, the factor that you think they will be in this election?

[Du Plessis] "I think they were a very interesting curiosity factor to begin with. They are people who are well known in their own right, and they want to make a certain point, and people were bound to take a lot of notice of them. But as I said earlier, it is early days, and the real issues will have to be dealt with in much greater detail than has happened so far, and I think the whole momentum of the election campaign will reduce that phenomenon to its proper numerical size."

### Worral Proposes National Referendum on Indaba

*MB191626 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1612 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Durban March 19 SAPA — The KwaZulu-Natal Indaba had presented a great chance to the government to combat international sanctions and disinvestment — and the chance had been "finally and irrevocably torpedoed" by Mr Chris Heunis.

Independent candidate at Helderberg on May 6, Dr Denis Worrall, said this at a press conference in Durban today.

Acceptance of the proposals would have sent a signal to the world that the government really did want to negotiate. The former SA ambassador, to London, who will challenge Mr Heunis in Helderberg, described this rejection as slap for Zulu leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who Dr Worrall said was a strong supporter of negotiations and an opponent of sanctions. "I believe there is every chance of the Indaba working," he said, adding later: "If I were an Natalian, I would support the Indaba."

The government had sided with the ANC in its rejection of the Indaba, which was "an excellent laboratory for testing this kind of thing" both domestically and internationally. But the government — and most of all Mr Heunis as the reponsible minister — had negated and rejected it in the "narrow no-confidence debate in February.

The Indaba had offered the country negotiation across race barriers — and Natal, with the best record of white and black relations, was the ideal area for such a test.

South Africa needed to counter the lack of trust of whites of blacks and blacks of whites.

For these reasons, Dr Worrall said, he believed the people of the region should have been granted a referendum by he government on the Indaba issue. The Indaba had become an important general election issue though its founders had been opposed to this, he said.

Dr Worrall said South Africa's many friends in the UK and abroad saw it as a means to getting South Africa on a faster road to reform and Mr Heunis most of all had stopped this.

He said its proposals would play a big part in the campaigns of himself, Dr Esther Lategan and Mr Wynand Malan. "We are setting the pace in what is going to be a very unusual election," Dr Worrall said. Mr Heunis' rejection of the Indaba had made him (Dr Worrall) all the more determined to defeat Mr Heunis on May 6.

### Pik Botha, Malan, Vlok Meet Ciskei's Sebe

*MB191533 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says the dispute between Ciskei and Transkei could become a very serious issue if it is allowed to get out of hand. Mr Botha, the minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, and the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, held discussions with President Lennox Sebe in Bisho this morning.

Mr Botha told our representative in Natal that the South African delegation has been sent to Ciskei by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, which showed how seriously the South African Government regarded the issue. Mr Botha said that the security situation in the region as well as the necessity of solving the problems peacefully had been discussed, and that President Sebe had again reassured him that he would solve problems through negotiations. Mr Botha said that matters such as the repatriation of Transkeians could follow if the objectives discussed today were achieved. The South African delegation also held talks with the Transkeian prime minister, Chief George Matanzima, and members of his cabinet today.

### Commentary Views 'Downswing' in Ties With Israel

*MB200524 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Relations between South Africa and Israel have been of a somewhat see-saw nature. In 1948, on the establishment of the State of Israel, South Africa was one of the first countries to recognize Israel and the then prime minister, Dr D.F. Malan, was the first head of government to visit the new state.

In the 1960's, Israel voted in the United Nations for sanctions against South Africa and on other occasions there has been severe Israeli criticism of this country. In the 1970's, however, relations were in an upswing, more particularly when one African country after another severed relations with Israel and she found that South Africa was one of the few friends she had on the continent.

In 1976 Prime Minister John Vorster visted Israel. There followed formalized cooperation between the two countries in fields such as investment, trade, and scientific and industrial technology.

Now, the seesaw is on a downswing. The Israeli Government has decided that it will not sign any new military contracts with South Africa and will reduce contacts with this country. The Israeli decision comes after a threat by the United States Con-

gress to stop military aid to Israel if she continues to maintain military ties with South Africa.

At stake is $800 million of American military aid to Israel this year and another $1,200 million in civilian aid.

One sad aspect of this development is the international blackmail role — the bully boy tactics — that the United States Congress has now resorted to in its vendetta against South Africa. The other said aspect is that the Israeli Government has chosen to disregard the past friendship of South Africans and the special relationship the Jewish community in this country has with Israel.

It is a small community — 120,000 at the time of the last census, or 2.7 percent of the total white population — but on a per capita basis its members remit more money to Israel every year than any other Jewish community in the world.

For South Africa, the Israeli move will mean that — as in the case of sanctions imposed by other countries — there will have to be adaptations. Trade with Israel is not large. Our imports from the country are less than 140 million rands a year. Exports are close to 400 million rands, 60 percent of these being coal, which energy-starved Israel finds a more reliable energy source than oil.

The biggest adaptation is likely to be in respect of cooperation on development in military technology. This is, however, an area in which ARMSCOR [Armaments Development and Production Corporation] and the private sector have successfully met past challenges and, with or without Israel, South Africa will meet the military technology challenges of the future.

### PFP MP Cables Israeli Leaders on Sanctions

*MB191852 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1828 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Johannesburg March 19 SAPA — The Progressive Federal Party MP for Yeoville, Mr Harry Schwarz, has sent a telegram to the Israel's prime minister and foreign minister, appealing to them not to support sanctions or a disinvestment policy against South Africa.

Mr Schwarz said he could understand the pressures which were being exerted on Israel and its objection to apartheid, but as a country that was itself subject to sanctions and boycotts, it should appreciate that such measures were not desirable and were often counter productive.

In his telegram he said there were positive alternatives to sanctions and disinvestment by which opposition to apartheid could be shown. These included action to increase employment among blacks and to equip underprivileged people to play a greater role in determination of their own future.

"As a Jewish South African who has a love for Israel and who has been an opponent of apartheid in South Africa all his life and is an active member of the official opposition in parliament, I make this last minute appeal to not to support sanctions or have a disinvestment policy against South Africa which would be counter productive to peaceful reform.... and would cause more unemployment and hardship to the people who least deserve it," he said.

### STAR Seeks Confirmation of Protection Order

*MB191336 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1321 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Johannesburg Mar 19 SAPA — *The Star* applied to the Rand supreme court today to confirm the granting of a temporary order which last week prohibited copies of *The Star* from being seized by police.

Confirmation of the order is being opposed by the police.

Appearing for *The Star*, Mr P.J. van R.henning, SC [Senior counsel], submitted that the temporary order granted by Mr Justice B. O'Donovan on March 10, which also declared a "national detainees day" advertisement in *The Star* to be legal was now academic. But as a matter of principle *The Star* wished the court to confirm its correctness in coming to court in the face of real danger that *The Star* would be seized.

The matter has come to court earlier than the set return date of March 24, because the police submit that the matter is urgent.

In an affidavit the commissioner of police, General Johann Coetzee, said the temporary order which prohibits seizure of editions of *The Star* carrying the DPSC [Detainees Parents Support Committee] advertisement was far too wide. The newspaper could be filled with forbidden material and the police would be powerless to act as long as it contained the advertisement.

*The Star* has also applied for confirmation that the advertisement it carried did not contravene the emergency regulations.

Opposing the confirmation of the order, Mr L. Visser, for the commissioner of police, raised a point which, he said, "could take care of the matter at once." He apologised for raising it so late. He submitted that a section of the General Law Amendment Act stated that no person would be entitled to be granted a temporary interdict against the state without giving 72 hours notice.

Mr Henning objected to the point being raised in court without being mentioned in the papers, which would have given *The Star* time to deal with it.

Dealing with General Coetzee's affidavit, Mr Henning said: "This is a matter of semantics. The consequences are so absurd that this interpretation could never be correct."

### HNP's Marais 'Optimistic' About CP Election Pact

*MB192040 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1915 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] The leader of the HNP, Mr Jaap Marais, says the possibility of an election pact between the HNP and the Conservative

Party has improved considerably during the past few days. Speaking after a meeting with the HNP's executive, Mr Marais said he was optimistic that an understanding could be reached between the two parties. Our political correspondent Frans Skeepers reports that the developments come in the wake of the deadlock reached to negotiations about a week ago when the two parties were unable to agree on a division of seats before the general election.

The Conservative Party's executive has also met in Pretoria since yesterday but a spokesman for the party told our political correspondent that the CP could not comment on the latest developments now because negotiations were still under way. Meanwhile, the HNP has announced in Pretoria that Mr Marais is to stand in the Hercules constituency. The other candidates in the Hercules constituency are the sitting MP Mr Lukas van Vuuren of the National Party and the present MP for Langlaagte Mr S.P. Barnard of the Conservative Party, who has also made himself available for this constituency.

## 2000 Railroad Workers Strike Over Dismissal

*MB191250 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1241 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Johannesburg March 19 SAPA — More than 2000 South African Transport Services [SATS] workers are out on strike at two depots near Johannesburg, sparked off by the dismissal last week of a driver at the City Deep container depot. SATS regional manager, southern Transvaal region, Mr Braam le Roux, said all black workers at City Deep and Kaserne depots were out on strike. The 2000 Kaserne workers joined the City Deep workers on sympathy strike yesterday. Mr le Roux said the 500 City Deep workers stopped working on Friday "on account of the dismissal of a driver who was involved in cash irregularities." The worker had been reinstated and fined R80.

The SA Railways and Harbours Workers Union [SAHRWU] — A COSATU affiliate — said yesterday that members in areas on the east Rand had indicated they would join the sympathy strike if workers' demands were not met. The union said workers would return only if the dismissed driver were reinstated unconditionally and workers be paid for time they stayed away from work. Chairman of the officially recognised Black Trade Union of the SA Transport Service (BLATU), Mr Daniel Phiri, told the conference the strike had not been organised by his union, and was "well-orchestrated and might spread."

Mr le Roux said SATS had no formal agreement with SAHRWU and had had no contact with them concerning the strike, but were negotiating with Mr Phiri's union. Mr le Roux said there was a backlog of 1800 containers, but other employees had been called in to handle deliveries. Negotiations between management and recognised leaders would continue.

## Blacks Favor No Group Domination in Survey

*MB191638 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 19 Mar 87 p 2*

[By Tony Stirling]

[Text] A nationwide scientific survey among Blacks has indicated that 86 percent favour a solution to the country's problems in which no one group is dominant over another.

About 57 percent of those canvassed in survey — some details of which were released to *The Citizen* for the first time in Pretoria yesterday — believed in a negotiated solution to the country's problems.

Only 28 percent thought majority rule would be a good thing while 48.5 percent thought it would be bad.

More than 40 percent of the sample thought that the government, the State President, Mr P.W. Botha, and the people combined were the grouping most capable of achieving solutions to the country's political problems.

No other group or personality achieved an individual rating of above 10 percent, while Mr Botha was regarded as twice as likely to solve problems than imprisoned ANC leader, Nelson Mandela.

Less than eight percent of those canvassed believed in a violent solution and only about one percent believed change could be brought about by actions such as boycotts.

About 55 percent of the sample believed that there was a good chance of solving the problems peacefully.

There was also a favourable response towards the police and the security forces in general.

The majority of Black adults and youths, according to the survey, saw the police as the main instrument of combating crime. Support for the so-called comrades in this regard was minimal.

A similar result was achieved in the survey in relation to the police presence in the townships, with the majority of both adults and youths stating that they thought it a good thing.

## Spokesman Discusses Goals of Freedom Forum

*MB191741 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] An alliance of mainly white anti-apartheid organizations was launched in South Africa yesterday. It comes in the run-up to whites-only elections, and it is called the Five Freedoms Forum. It is calling for freedom from want, freedom of speech, association, and conscience, and freedom from discrimination and exploitation. But there already exists such anti-apartheid movements as the United Democratic Front, UDF. On the line, Elizabeth Obene asked spokesman Dr David Webster how the

Five Freedoms Forum differed from the others.

[Begin recording] [Webster] I would say that one of the main differences between them and us is that we have more room in which to move, we are a new organization, and although we are not the same thing as the UDF, some of our affiliates to the Five Freedoms Forum are indeed groups which belong to the UDF as well.

[Ohene] So how would you describe your aims generally? What are you hoping to achieve?

[Webster] Well, we are a nonracial alliance of human rights and political groups, but we see ourselves as working specifically at the moment within the white community, because it's pretty clear to us that the white population of South Africa is terribly out of touch with the reality of our land. The truth is that white South Africans are almost unaware that a state of emergency exists. And we are now entering into an election period where, what with the enormous censorship that exists under the state of emergency, and the general lack of knowledge of the white community, people are going to the polls, and they are going to pass their votes in a poll of ignorance. What we are trying to do is put before the white population the real facts in South Africa and to try and alert them to the fact that the vast majority of our people are living under intolerable conditions at the moment.

[Ohene] So you are hoping to influence the votes of people without being a political party.

[Webster] That's correct. We are not urging people to vote for a particular party. In fact, there is no political party standing in this election which we could ourselves endorse and say to people, you must vote for this party. What we are doing is leaving it up to people's own consciences. But what we are saying to them is for heaven's sake be informed as to what is happening in your country before you cast your vote.

[Ohene] So what sort of party would you like to see in South Africa?

[Webster] First of all we want to see a South Africa which is unequivocally one-person-one-vote, where there will be majority rule not based on race or any other criteria, and we want a reunified South Africa. We do not believe in the bantustans and the homelands. We want one South Africa, one people. So first of all, you must understand that our minimum demand is a unified and free South Africa where every political party will have a fair chance. That means then that we are looking toward a political party which will represent the majority view of the South African people. As you well know, the parties of the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress are banned in South Africa. We regard the ANC particularly as having a lot of support inside the country, and any government here that ignores that is doing so at its peril. So we want a political dispensation where all political parties may freely contest and may the best party witn with its majority.

[Ohene] The state president, Botha, has described the Freedom Forum as a dangerous coalition. Do you see yourselves as such?

[Webster] Well, I suppose to a person who does not practice democracy himself, who uses totalitarian methods against the majority of the population — I'm sure he does see us as dangerous, and indeed maybe we are dangerous to him. [end recording]

## Information Bureau Issues 19 Mar Unrest Report

*MB200815 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0814 GMT 20 Mar 87*

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — Here follows the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the 24-hour period ending midnight last night:

"A group of black radicals threw stones at a private home in Kagiso (Krugersdorp) last night. A woman, Emily Kgwathizi, 17, sustained slight injuries in the incident. No damage or arrests were reported.

"A black man was arrested in Bohlokang (Bethlehem) after he, and several others threw stones at an administration board vehicle. Damage was reported as minimal.

"Two black youths were arrested in KwaDabeka (Durban) after taking part in the stoning of a bus. Minimal damage was reported.

"Two black youths were arrested after throwing stones at a private vehicle on the Uitenhage main road. Damage was reported as minimal."

## Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB200644 [Editorial Report]

### CITIZEN on Possible Israeli Sanctions

"We hope that Israel firmly rejects U.S. pressure to impose sanctions against South Africa — or if it does succumb to these pressures, it will do its best to limit the measures it imposes," says Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 19 March in its page 6 editorial. "The trouble with Israel is that it is so dependent on U.S. aid, and particularly military aid, that it might be tempted to sacrifice part of its trade or military links with South Africa to ensure that the U.S. does not reduce military assistance to it." "It would be a sad state of affairs if the Israeli Government acted against a country which has been so friendly towards it and so understanding of its problems and needs. In saying this, we discount suggestions that any Israeli measures could provoke a backlash against South Africa's 115,000-strong Jewish community." "It is vitally important for both South Africa and Israel that they are not estranged from each other because of U.S. blackmail."

### STAR on Black Education

"Black schools close for first-term holidays tomorrow after one of the quietest quarters since chaos hit black education in 1984," says a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 19 March. "There are those who argue that the iron fist of the security forces, the state of emergency and the get-tough attitude of the Department of Education and Training have formed a

necessary truce." "Others point to the grassroots power of the NECC [National Education Crisis Committee] and other community bodies which have successfully appealed to pupils to wage their battle against apartheid while learning at the same time." But, "at base, black education is still separate from and unequal to white education. Until such time as more basic causes of the pupils' dissatisfaction are tackled, only a fragile peace can prevail."

**NP Overplaying ANC Threat**

Political correspondent David Braun writes on the same page that there is a theory that "the Government is simply abusing the threat that the ANC represents to South African society to intimidate the white voters into voting for the National Party." "In so doing, Government opponents say, the NP is playing a dangerous game. For short-term expediency, that is harvesting a big majority in the election, it is in fact building an image of the ANC into a situation in which it is 'either us or them.'" Braun believes that the NP may be "overplaying its ANC card in this election campaign. Given that there is general fear of the ANC in the white electorate, there is no reason why voters are not asking themselves why it should be exclusively the National Party which is capable of dealing with the threat."

**BUSINESS DAY Blames Government for Economic 'Disaster'**

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 19 March notes that Margaret Thatcher is "reaping the rewards of a stunningly successful if tough policy of financial discipline, restrained government spending, and privatisation of State enterprises." "President Botha, on the other hand, is preparing for an election in the shadow of an economic disaster so great that his Minister of Finance says it is 'unjust' to hold government responsible for the mess. Inflation has defeated government, fiscal restraint is a distant memory, and privatisation remains so much hot air." "Not all comparisons work out in Britain's favour. Not everything that Thatcher does is wise or effective. But she has had the will to put into effect the policies of discipline, deregulation and privatisation that have had only lip service in this country." "Her reward is to be well placed for the election, in sharp contrast to the Nationalists in this country who must complain of the unfairness of people who judge them by their own performance."

**CAPE TIMES: Electorate To Consider Economy**

"Is it reasonable for the electorate to cast their ballots on the basis of South Africa's present economic circumstances?" asks a page 10 editorial in Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 18 March. The editorial refers to Finance Minister Barend du Plessis saying that to do so would be "unfair." "Far from leaving the state of the economy out of election day reckoning, we think it should be one of the foremost considerations."

**CAPE TIMES on Government Reform**

"Nationalist politicians are resorting to an inordinate amount of nudge-nudge and wink-winking in the running up to May 6 poll," says Anthony Johnson in the "Midweek Politics" column on page 10 of *Cape Times*. "The object of this 'softly, softly catchee monkey' marketing exercise is to try to convince voters that despite overwhelming signs to the contrary, the National Party is — 'cross my heart' — for real 'powersharing' and 'reform' and against apartheid after all." "The reason for the switch from private assurances to public promises is the rapidly dawning realization among the National Party's top tacticians that they badly misread the signs in cranking the party machine up to fight a right-wing campaign. For the burgeoning verligte [enlightened] rebellion has upstaged the electoral threat to the ruling party from the far-right which appears hell-bent in sinking to new depths in internecine bitterness. So now, despite the NP's apartheid election manifesto, government ministers, and lesser NP candidates, are pulling out all stops to get voters and the outside world to buy the idea that government is back on the reform trail."

**SOWETAN Urges Mozambican Aid**

The page 6 editorial in Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 19 March says that the "crime that is perpetrated" against the Mozambicans "involves us directly." "There has always been some link between the workers from Mozambique and South Africa. In any event we are afraid the allegations that have been made about South Africa's influence in the tragic events now taking place cannot be discounted." "We cannot call ourselves a civilized nation when a problem, partly created by us, is left to carry on in such a despicable fashion. The government of South Africa, to regain its dignity, needs to help the people from Mozambique, which was incidentally one of the only black neighbouring countries that signed a peace treaty with us."

**VADERLAND on Economic Interdependence**

A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 18 March says that it is possible that the Highlands Water Scheme "can develop into a classic example in Africa of economic development brought about through interdependence." "What has happened here should also convince other neighboring states that the path to economic development in the region does not lie in their attempts to greater independence from South Africa, but to expand the region through cooperation."

**BEELD Carries Security Forces Day Ad**

Page 18 of Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 19 March carries the advertisement issued by the University Freedom of Speech Association and the Victims Against Terrorism calling for support of the security forces day on Sunday 22 March. (The advertisement was first texted from Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English 15 Mar 87, and filed as MB151322)

**Call For NP Vote**

A page 20 editorial says that by going to the polls the "people jury is going to give its democratic verdict of the government handling of past matters." "The NP is going to face one of its strictest tests ever." "For those who want to complain it is certainly not difficult to accuse the party of issues from decades past. But what is important is that the NP was mature enough to admit its errors and to begin to correct them." The paper believes that the reform efforts of the government are "purpose-

fully twisted and misjudged by the opposition. Despite this the reform process continues in a proper manner. There can be debate about the tempo of reform but not about the seriousness with which it is approached." *Beeld* cannot see how there can be "voting for anyone else but the NP."

## ZAMBIA

### USSR's Gilashvili Meets Defense Official

*MB191224 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 19 Mar 87*

[Text] Visiting Soviet Vice President Comrade Pavel Gilashvili, [title as heard] has said that the Soviet Union is willing to help find a solution to the volatile situation (?prevailing) in southern Africa. Speaking when he met Secretary of State for Defense and Security Comrade Alex Shapi in his office today, Comrade Gilashvili has said the Soviet Union has always been against racism and (?apartheid). He said his country understood its responsibilities with the [words indistinct] friendly countries, (?hence the visit of his delegation is) to get firsthand information from the Zambian leadership. The vice president, who is leading a parliamentary delegation, said problems between Zambia and the Soviet Union should also be discussed.